

Bible Study, Series 2, Week 5: Following Christ

Personal Bible Study

Day: 1

Read: Philippians 2: 3-12

1. Verse 3-4 gives the opposite attitude to humility and then proceeds to tell us how true humility shows. Say in the light of verse 3-4 what true humility is.
2. Verse 5-8 gives the perfect example of true humility that is completely unselfish and perfect. How do these verses describe it?
3. How many "steps" of humiliation can be found in verse 6-8?
4. Now, have a look at verse 5 again and say what the attitude of a follower of Christ should be.
5. What was the result of his humiliation according to verse 10-12? Have a look at Isaiah 53: 12 and Proverbs 15: 33b and 18: 12

Day: 2

Read: Luke 14: 7-11 and 22: 24-30

1. Compare Luke 14: 7-11 with Proverbs 25: 6-7
2. Verse 24. Also look at Luke 9: 46-48. Why was learning this lesson so difficult for them? Is it possible that we would have been the same? Think about it.
3. What is the big truth concerning leadership that we learn in verse 25-26?
4. We must understand verse 27 in the light of John 13: 12-15.
5. Verse 28-30. Read 1 Corinthians 6: 2 and Revelations 20: 4 with it. What are the astonishing things waiting for the believers?

Day: 3

Read: Galatians 5: 22-6: 5

1. Verse 24 means: A Christian is a person that took his old sinful nature, with his will, and nailed in on the cross and he turns his back on sin every day. A willful turning of his back on the will of the flesh. The lusts and wants are the tools of the devil and he uses them to trap us. A Christians has turned his back on all that.
2. What does verse 25-26 tell us about humility? What is it and how does one live like that?
3. How does this humility show, according to verse 1-2, in a Christian's attitude towards other people?
4. Verse 3: the opposite of humility!
5. What is the exact meaning of verse 4-5? Why does verse 2 says "Share their burdens" and verse 5 says "For each one will bear his own load?" What is meant by burdens in verse 2 and with load in verse 5?

Day: 4

Read: Proverbs 15: 25-33 and 16: 5 and 16: 18-20

1. Proverbs 15: 25: Why can arrogant people never expect blessings from God? Have a look at Matthew 5:3 and Luke 18: 13-14
2. Verse 31-32: Why is it that people do not want to listen to good advice and that people do not like discipline?
3. Verse 33: What does fear-of-God mean? Read Proverbs 8: 13. How would you describe humility in the light of that? Why id honor the fruit there of? Read 1 Samuel 2: 30.
4. Proverbs 16: 5 & 18-20: If you look at the other verses through verse 20, where does true humility come from? What is the basic difference between arrogance and humility?

Day: 5

Read: 1 Peter 5: 1-9

1. What are the dangers, as far as attitude is concerned, that officials in the Church are exposed to according to verse 2-3?
2. How is the right attitude shown in these two verses?
3. Verse 5: "are to be down to earth with each other" in the original literally means to tie humility around you, as piece of clothing, like that of a slave. What does it remind you of in the life of Jesus?
4. Take note of the rich promises in verse 1, 4, 5 and 6. How do you receive these promises according to verse 6?

Day: 6

Read: Matthew 17: 22-23, 18: 1-4 and Galatians 2: 20

1. How difficult is it not to learn to be humble! Have a look at what Jesus is speaking to them about in 17: 22-23 and what they are speaking to Him about in Matthew 18!
2. To verse 2 Mark adds (Mark 9: 36) something beautiful, a revelation of Jesus' love for children.
3. What is the change Jesus is talking about if one reads verse 3 together with 1? What is it without which no one will enter into the Kingdom of the heavens? ("you're not even going to get a look at the kingdom, let alone get in")
4. What exactly does Jesus mean by His words in verse 4?
5. The biggest lesson on humility we learn in Galatians 2: 20. Arrogance pushes Christ of the throne so I can sit on it. Humility pushes the "Me" from the throne so that Christ can be King in my life.

Group Bible Study: Week 5

Read: John 13: 1-17

It is clear from verse 15 that this piece is once again about "Following Christ" and what it asks of us in practice.

Verse 1: "Having loved his dear companions, he continued to love them right to the end" Jesus loved them very dearly is what this verse is telling us. Now the story commences to tell us how He demonstrated it.

Verse 2-12: What we actually have here is a dramatized parable, a parable told with deeds and not with words.

Jesus and his disciples arrived at the place where they were going to eat the Passover meal. As was the custom there was a basin with water with a cloth that the slave was supposed to use to wash their feet with. Only there was no slave. Now the question was who will do the humble duty of a slave and wash their feet. Not one did it because they were busy haggling about rank. So, the Biggest amongst them got up and did the job. He even washed the feet of Judas, well knowing what Judas' plan was. (Verse 10-11)

Verse 10: The custom was to take a bath before they went to the meal, but because of the dusty roads and the fact that they only wore sandals, it was the custom to wash their feet before the meal.

Verse 10-11: With this last deed, Jesus is trying to get Judas, for one last time, to repent and not do what he planned. The last of this is described in verse 26. Judas remained unsaved in spite of this!

1. What are all the things said about Jesus in verse 1-3 that shows us his greatness?
2. Where else in the New Testament do we get very good parallel piece to what verse 4-5 is demonstrating to us? Read it together with verse 3-5. (It is in our personal Bible study for this week)
3. Read verse 6-10 and take special note of verse 8 and then try and find out what these two "washings," Jesus is speaking about in verse 10, is symbolic of?
4. The core idea of verse 12-17 is without any doubt verse 14-15. What do these words of Jesus mean for us in practice in our daily lives? Give practical examples. What message does it have for us concerning our human relations?
5. Discuss the following: Love to the bitter end is show in humility. Humility is the root of all virtues, without it one cannot become a follower of Christ. Give a definition of humility.