

“...and all of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, for God is opposed to the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” (1 Peter 5:5)

Broad Definitions

Pride is an attitude that results in the elevation of oneself in relation to God, and in relation to others

Humility is having the appropriate and correct view of ourselves in relation to God and others, and acting accordingly

Humility Toward One Another

- The Importance of Humility
- The Foundation of Humility
- The Connection: Love and Humility
- How Do I Know?
- How Do I Increase Humility?

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God Dwells with the Lowly of Spirit

*For this is what the high and exalted One
Who lives forever, whose name is Holy, says:
“I dwell in a high and holy place,
And also with the contrite and lowly of spirit
In order to revive the spirit of the lowly
And to revive the heart of the contrite.*

- Isaiah 57:15 (NASB)

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God Looks to the Humble

This is what the LORD says:

“Heaven is My throne and the earth is the footstool for My feet.

Where then is a house you could build for Me?

And where is a place that I may rest?

² For My hand made all these things,

So all these things came into being,” declares the LORD.

“But I will look to this one,

At one who is humble and contrite in spirit, and who trembles at My word.

- Isaiah 66:1-2

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God's Hatred of Pride

- ❖ Proverbs 6:26-19 “There are six things which the Lord hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: Haughty eyes...”
- ❖ Proverbs 8:13 “Pride and arrogance and the evil way and the perverted mouth, I hate.”
- ❖ Proverbs 16:5 “Everyone who is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord; Assuredly, he will not be unpunished.”

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The Result of Pride

- ❖ Proverbs 11:2 “When pride comes, then comes dishonor”
- ❖ Proverbs 16:8 “Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before stumbling”
- ❖ Proverbs 18:12 “Before destruction the heart of man is haughty”
- ❖ 1 Timothy 3:6 “...so that he will not become conceited and fall into the condemnation incurred by the devil.”

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The Foundation of Humility

⁴ “Hear, Israel! The LORD is our God, the LORD is one! ⁵ And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

– Deuteronomy 6:4-5

¹⁸ You shall not take vengeance, nor hold any grudge against the sons of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself; I am the LORD.

- Leviticus 19:18

❖ Matt. 22:35-40

- ❖ Lawyer’s Question: Which is the great commandment in the Law?
- ❖ Jesus’ Answer: “On these two commandments depend the whole Law and the Prophets.”

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❖ Mark 12:28-31

- ❖ Scribe’s Question: “What commandment is the foremost of all?”
- ❖ Jesus’ Answer: “There is no other commandment greater than these.”

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❖ Luke 10:25-27

❖ Lawyer’s Question: “What shall I do to inherit eternal life?”

❖ Jesus’ Answer: “Do this, and you will live.”

❖ Galatians 5:13-15

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The Connection – 1 Corinthians 13:4-7

⁴ Love is patient, love is kind *and* is not jealous; love does not brag *and* is not arrogant, ⁵ does not act unbecomingly; it does not seek its own, is not provoked, does not take into account a wrong *suffered*, ⁶ does not rejoice in unrighteousness, but rejoices with the truth; ⁷ bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

These behaviors, which define what love is, are impossible without the foundation of humility!

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How Do I Know if I Have Humility?

- ❖ Is there pride in my relationship with God?
 - ❖ Am I anxious about my life?
 - ❖ Am I ungrateful (feel deserving, give myself credit)?
 - ❖ Am I self-sufficient, self-reliant?
 - ❖ Am I self-righteous (think I offer something to God)?

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How Do I Know if I Have Humility?

- ❖ Is there pride in my relationship with others?
 - ❖ Do I do things so that people will see me?
 - ❖ Need to talk about myself/compare myself
 - ❖ Need constant praise and recognition
 - ❖ Feel sad or offended if not patted on the back
- ❖ Am I overly self-conscious/concerned about what others think of me?
- ❖ Jealous or envious of others
 - ❖ How do I react to others' fortune or success?

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How Do I Know if I Have Humility?

- ❖ Is there pride in my relationship with others?
 - ❖ Am I insensitive to others' feelings?
 - ❖ Find it hard to encourage others
 - ❖ Am critical of others/talk negatively to feel better about myself
 - ❖ Do I over-estimate my own knowledge and opinion?
 - ❖ Feel like I can't learn from others
 - ❖ Have an answer/opinion for everything
 - ❖ Find it hard to admit when I don't know
 - ❖ Dismiss others' knowledge or opinions

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How Do I Know if I Have Humility?

- ❖ Is there pride in my relationship with others?
 - ❖ Do I over-estimate my behavior?
 - ❖ Struggle to admit that I am wrong
 - ❖ Get angry/defensive when corrected
 - ❖ Unaccountable for actions/make excuses
- ❖ Separate myself from others/Don't need others?
- ❖ Cannot submit to authority?
- ❖ Think I am humble already?

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How Do I Increase My Humility?

- ❖ Recognize that I am not immune to pride – Luke 22:24-27
- ❖ Recognize that I am completely dependent on God
 - ❖ Pray like you recognize it – 1 Peter 5:5-7; Phil. 4:6-7
- ❖ Recognize my dependence on others
 - ❖ Understand my limitations and be vulnerable
 - ❖ Our journey to Heaven is not a competition against one another
- ❖ Leave room for others to have opinions that might be right

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Live For Our Eulogy, Not Our Resume

“I have listened to many confessions of my friends before their deaths,” he wrote around then. “They all reacted in the same unexpected manner: they regretted they hadn’t given enough to other people, of their hearts, of the truth . . .

the only thing that remained after them on Earth, the only thing that was positive and had a lasting value, was what they could give of themselves to others.”

- Witold Pilecki

The Volunteer: The true story of the resistance hero who infiltrated Auschwitz

