

Fort Hill Christian Youth Camp 2025

Class Curriculum - The Christian Life

Age - Senior Campers

Thursday - Humility

Summary

1. Subject: Humility
2. Scripture: James 1:9-11, 2:1-9, 3:13-18. Philippians 2:1-11
3. Grade/Level: Senior Campers
4. Objective: Discuss the biblical commandment to be humble and how humility is fundamental to Christian Living
5. Time Allotment: 1 Hour

Prayer: Don't forget to begin and end your class with a prayer! If possible, have a camper lead one or both of these prayers.

Lesson

Overview: This week's classes will focus on ethics, or in other words, "Christian Living". This will be applied differently to every age group. Each class will begin by reading through select passages of scripture, with a guided commentary of each, as well as reading comprehension questions, then a discussion guide for the topic of the day.

Today's lesson will focus on humility. So far, we have focused mainly on actions. Humility is a mindset. Sometimes, it determines what we do, but more often, it determines how we do things. Humility is a part of the foundation of Christian living and reflects the nature of God.

James 1:9-11, 2:1-9, 3:13-18

James 1:9-11

In the beginning of his letter, James briefly introduces several concepts that will be main themes. In these verses, he mentions the divine order concerning worldly greatness and humility. God does not recognize our earthly wealth, fame, or status. In fact, these things often get in the way of our spiritual lives. Instead, God glorifies the meek and lowly. Knowing this, we should strive to be humble and seek spiritual things instead of earthly things. The comparison James makes between a rich man and a withering flower is akin to Ecclesiastes: There is no eternal significance to earthly greatness.

James 3:13-18

This passage talks about the difference between worldly wisdom and wisdom from above. If our wisdom comes from a place of pride, seeking to be the smartest or win every argument, it is unspiritual. Instead, we should be displaying wisdom from God's word. This entire passage hinges on verse 13, which instructs our wisdom to be "meek". Everything we know and understand should come from a place of humility. It should affect our every thought, decision, and action.

Reading Comprehension:

- What does it mean to be humble? Why do you think God wants us to be humble?
- What are some examples in scripture of God exalting the humble? (Jesus in the beatitudes, God's selection of Moses, the story of Lazarus and the rich man, etc)
- What are some ways that your schools/friends encourage vanity and pride?

Philippians 2:1-11

Philippians 2:1-4

In this passage, Paul writes about the importance of being unified with each other as a natural result of having the love of Christ in our lives. In verse three onwards, he makes it clear that the way to achieve biblical unity with other Christians is to be humble. Instead of prioritizing our own self-interests, we should think of others and act according to their needs. This is similar to other passages where Paul discusses conflict within the Church, and that we should always be striving to outdo one another in our submission to each other (Romans 12, 1 Corinthians 12)

Philippians 2:5-11

Jesus Christ is used as the ultimate example of the humility and selflessness we are supposed to have. By becoming a man, He “emptied Himself” in an unfathomable act of humility. Moreover, He was a man of humble origins and low status, and did not seek earthly power. Then, in the greatest act of selflessness the world has ever seen, He went on to die on the cross as the atoning sacrifice for our sins. This type of humility is impossible to comprehend but is a key aspect of the nature of Christ and is something all Christians should look to as an example.

Reading Comprehension:

- Who are some people in the Bible who display humility? (Moses, David as he interacts with King Saul, Ruth achieves unity through humility, etc.)
- Is there anyone in your life that you think of as a good example of living humbly? What are some things that they do differently than you?
- Philippians makes it clear that there is a link between unity and humility. How does being humble help unify Christians? Is there a way to have spiritual unity without humility?
- Jesus is the ultimate example of humility. In what ways can we be humble like Christ? For most of us, this won't mean sacrificing our lives, but there are still many practical ways we can have a Christlike humility.

DISCUSSION

Remaining Time

Guided Discussion:

Ask, “**Do you think God is humble?**”. Understanding humility as an aspect of God is important in realizing why we are commanded to be humble. God the Father is not humble in the same sense we might be today. He knows His power and that He is worthy of praise. He does display humility in many ways, though. In creating mankind, He took on an active relationship with a people beneath Him. After mankind sinned against Him, He continued to show mercy and grace and have a covenant relationship with His people. While He would have been justified in destroying His creation or leaving us to fend for ourselves, He chose to maintain that relationship out of love. More directly, Jesus Christ embodies humility, and as part of the Godhead, we can know that God has traits of humility. This is part of why He commands it of us.

Ask, “**How can you balance having confidence with being humble?**”. Meekness is often associated with negative things like anxiety, low self-worth, second-guessing, and more. God does not want this form of meekness. Instead, scripture tells us that we are to have confidence in our faith, assurance of our salvation, and that we are conquerors of sin and death when we are in Christ (Romans 8:31-39). There is a healthy balance between biblical humility and this kind of spiritual confidence.

Humility is often partnered with sacrifice, like the example of Jesus Christ. Read **Romans 12:1-3** together, as it informs us what our sacrifice ought to be. We are to deny the world, and in doing so deny any selfish ambitions we may have. We are to dedicate ourselves fully to God. This sacrifice of our desire is part of our worship to God. Verse three, in particular, reveals how this connects to humility in Christian living.

- **What are the ways we are pushed to “conform to the world”?**
- **How can living humbly help us not conform?**
- **How does humility help with judgment and discernment?**
- **How will your life change if you commit to faithful humbleness? What changes do you need to make to reflect Christlike humility?**