

Growth Group Homework

For the week of November 17, 2013

QUICK REVIEW: Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

MY STORY

1. This week we heard that humility does not mean we lack confidence or never speak of our achievements. Yet, the difference between confidence and arrogance can be a fine line. For example, if a person you didn't know walked into the room and spoke about a great accomplishment they just achieved, would you tend to think they are confident or arrogant?

What might be some indicators that you have crossed the line from being confident to arrogant?

2. To what extent do you think humility is a choice?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. The fact that "gentle and humble" (Matthew 11:29) are the only character qualities Jesus uses to describe himself in the New Testament definitely points to their importance. How do the following verses reinforce the importance of humility and its role in our lives?

Psalms 18:27

Proverbs 11:2

Psalms 25:9

Psalms 149:4

Can you think of a time when you've seen the results of these verses show up in your life when you've acted humbly?

2. How do the following verses describe how humility can be built into our lives as followers of Christ?

Colossians 3:12

Deuteronomy 8:2, 3, 16

3. Larry gave us a great way to put humility into action by practicing the “guest of honor principle.” We also heard that humility is not a state of mind or something we feel, but rather an action. What can you learn from the following verses about what humility looks like and how to put it into action?

James 5:16

1 Peter 4:8

Hebrews 3:13

Proverbs 12:15

Which of the verses above do you think you do best? Which one might need some work? Do you think those closest to you would grade you the same way?

TAKING IT HOME

Looking back at the “guest of honor principle,” is there anyone you might need to be more effective in practicing this principle on:

Family member:

Friend:

Co-worker:

*** Bonus Question:** Here are a few more ideas on how to put humility into action. Is there one or two you’d like to put into action this next week?

- Listen more than you talk
- Count to 3 before adding to a conversation to ensure the other person is done
- Be willing to follow another person in conversation even if you don’t get to talk about your idea
- Give credit for others’ ideas that you are carrying through on
- Ask for the opinion of others
- Ask others to join conversations and contribute
- It’s OK to be wrong and to admit it
- Be quick to apologize when you do something wrong
- You are God’s creation, not your own
- Give others the benefit of the doubt
- Know that timing is everything and everyone excels at different times in life
- Help others with their goals
- Recognize that you have faults
- Know how to accept praise with a simple thank you, don’t elaborate on it or talk more about it
- Accept new ideas and change, don’t be stuck on what you knew before
- Since winning isn’t everything, you don’t have to win
- Remember you are a sinner (in other words, you are no better or worse than anyone else)
- Ignore first impressions of people

Prayer Requests

⇒

⇒

⇒

Growth Group Homework

For the week of November 17, 2013

QUICK REVIEW: Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

MY STORY

1. This week we heard that humility does not mean we lack confidence or never speak of our achievements. Yet, the difference between confidence and arrogance can be a fine line. For example, if a person you didn't know walked into the room and spoke about a great accomplishment they just achieved, would you tend to think they are confident or arrogant?

What might be some indicators that you have crossed the line from being confident to arrogant?

2. To what extent do you think humility is a choice?

DIGGING DEEPER

1. The fact that "gentle and humble" (Matthew 11:29) are the only character qualities Jesus uses to describe himself in the New Testament definitely points to their importance. How do the following verses reinforce the importance of humility and its role in our lives?

Psalm 18:27

27 You save the humble
but bring low those whose eyes are haughty. [NIV]

Proverbs 11:2

2 When pride comes, then comes disgrace,
but with humility comes wisdom. [NIV]

Psalm 25:9

9 He guides the humble in what is right
and teaches them his way. [NIV]

Psalm 149:4

4 For the Lord takes delight in his people;
he crowns the humble with victory. [NIV]

Can you think of a time when you've seen the results of these verses show up in your life when you've acted humbly?

2. How do the following verses describe how humility can be built into our lives as followers of Christ?

Colossians 3:12

12 Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. [NIV]

Deuteronomy 8:2, 3, 16

2 Remember how the Lord your God led you all the way in the wilderness these forty years, to humble and test you in order to know what was in your heart, whether or not you would keep his commands.

3 He humbled you, causing you to hunger and then feeding you with manna, which neither you nor your ancestors had known, to teach you that man does not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.

16 He gave you manna to eat in the wilderness, something your ancestors had never known, to humble and test you so that in the end it might go well with you. [NIV]

3. Larry gave us a great way to put humility into action by practicing the "guest of honor principle." We also heard that humility is not a state of mind or something we feel, but rather an action. What can you learn from the following verses about what humility looks like and how to put it into action?

James 5:16

16 Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person is powerful and effective. [NIV]

1 Peter 4:8

8 Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. [NIV]

Hebrews 3:13

13 But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called "Today," so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness. [NIV]

Proverbs 12:15

15 The way of fools seems right to them,
but the wise listen to advice. [NIV]

Which of the verses above do you think you do best? Which one might need some work? Do you think those closest to you would grade you the same way?

TAKING IT HOME

Looking back at the “guest of honor principle,” is there anyone you might need to be more effective in practicing this principle on:

Family member:

Friend:

Co-worker:

*** Bonus Question:** Here are a few more ideas on how to put humility into action. Is there one or two you'd like to put into action this next week?

- Listen more than you talk
- Count to 3 before adding to a conversation to ensure the other person is done
- Be willing to follow another person in conversation even if you don't get to talk about your idea
- Give credit for others' ideas that you are carrying through on
- Ask for the opinion of others
- Ask others to join conversations and contribute
- It's OK to be wrong and to admit it
- Be quick to apologize when you do something wrong
- You are God's creation, not your own
- Give others the benefit of the doubt
- Know that timing is everything and everyone excels at different times in life
- Help others with their goals
- Recognize that you have faults
- Know how to accept praise with a simple thank you, don't elaborate on it or talk more about it
- Accept new ideas and change, don't be stuck on what you knew before
- Since winning isn't everything, you don't have to win
- Remember you are a sinner (in other words, you are no better or worse than anyone else)
- Ignore first impressions of people

Prayer Requests

⇒

⇒

⇒