

Discussion Guide

Sincerely: wk7 Humility In Suffering

February 11, 2024



Big Idea

Jesus followers pursue humility, because Jesus was humble.



Icebreaker

Lent is a season where we intentionally reflect upon things like our personal sin that necessitated Jesus' death on a cross. We engage in it to best prepare ourselves to wholeheartedly celebrate, in thanksgiving, Easter when He rose from the grave conquering sin & death and offering us new life. What are things you typically engage in during Lent that assist you in this preparation?



Discussion Questions

1. Read 1 Peter 5:5b (starts with "All of you..."). Peter here is addressing the church body, so who is included in "All of you"? When it comes to "clothing ourselves with humility toward one another" in the church body, what are some criteria we, in our humanity, tend to incorrectly establish by comparing ourselves which prevent us from being humble toward them? Share an example you have where you saw or experienced this? Are there some criteria that you are easily tempted toward that would prevent you from being humble toward another in the church?
2. Read Philippians 2:5-8 & John 13:2-5, 12-17. In one phrase or sentence, what is the main teaching (including application) found in these passages for us as followers of Jesus Christ? How do you live that out today inside the church & outside the church? Is there a prompting you feel you may have from the Holy Spirit to live that out in ways that you currently are not? What's stopping you?
3. Read 1 Peter 5:6-7. Per these verses, what is the result of our humility? How are we able to cast our anxiety on God? Remind yourselves quickly of what Philippians 2:5-8 said, then read Philippians 2:9-11. As followers of Jesus & putting Philippians 2:9-11 together with 1 Peter 5:6-7, what can we be confident of regarding what God will do for us? Point being (fill in blanks): *If in our faith we follow Jesus's example and h_____ ourselves, He will l_____ us up one day! Our h_____ doesn't just bless others, it also blesses u_____!*
4. What is the opposite of humility? What can be downfalls, or consequences, of it for us personally, including in our relationship with God? With others? When have you personally seen or experienced the opposite of humility sadly damaging someone &/or those around them?
5. How is it a demonstration of humility to take care of your personal health (mentally, physically, etc.)? What are ways that Jesus took care of Himself personally (being fully human)? When we do not take the time to take care of ourselves, what are we afraid of? How can not taking care of oneself reveal an ultimate lack of trust in God?
6. Read 1 Peter 5:8-9. What are ways that one can *be alert, be of sober mind, and resist the devil?*



Concluding Question

Who is someone you could write a personal letter of encouragement (like Peter did here in 1 Peter) to and how could that be a blessing to them. Will you do it? Why or why not?



Application

1. What do you think the Holy Spirit may be saying to you through this sermon and our discussion?
2. What is something God wants you to do now?
3. Is there a way we can help each other apply what God is showing us?



Prayer

Continue praying for the season of Lent leading us all to appropriately celebrate Easter!