

# Humility

By Pastor Marcus Martinez



What does it mean to be humble? This study came through a time of prayer. I was asking God to show me some things about my life. I began asking myself, “am I a humble guy, or am I all about Marcus Martinez? Do I really understand what it means to be a humble man?” The Bible says that God wants us to be humble. We sometimes have a wrong view of what being humble is. Some of us think it means walking in poverty and lack and being defeated. We associate poverty with godliness.

To humble oneself means to bring one’s way of thinking and the way one behaves in line with God’s way of thinking and doing things. The Bible says in **Isaiah 55:8-9**, “**For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways,**” says the LORD. “**For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts.**” This means you have to change the way you do things and start doing things God’s way, so that you can activate the blessings in your life. A person who humbles himself is a growing person, because every day that person is submitting his character under God and is being changed. This will set you free because if you want to be exalted in life, you will need a breakthrough. **I Peter 5:6** says, “**Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time.**”

What does exalted mean? It means breakthrough. God will give you breakthroughs in your life when you humble yourself under His way of doing things. In **Matthew 18:4**, “**Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.**” God does things very differently from the world. The Bible says that if you want to be great in the Kingdom of God, you have to humble yourself like a child. Even though we have strength, we do not have to always use that strength. We do not have to exert that power of authority, even though we know we can exert it. The Bible says that Moses was the meekest man on the earth, the most humble man on the earth; yet he had such power. He had the ability but the Bible says that he was meek. Now meekness does not mean weakness. Meekness means to have the ability and power under control and use it when you need to use it for the glory of God.

**Matthew 20:20** says, “**Then the mother of Zebedee’s sons came to Him with her sons, kneeling down and asking something from Him.**” That is what most of us do, kneel down and ask. Jesus teaches us something very important here. **Verse 21: And He said to her, “What do you wish?” She said to Him, “Grant that these two sons of mine may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on the left, in Your kingdom.”** Many of us say, “God use me, God use me.” **Verse 22: But Jesus answered and said, “You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?”**

Are you willing to wake up early? Are you willing to be the last one leaving the building? Are you willing to drive across the city and serve? Are you willing to carry this cross? Are you willing? It is not all about a suit, a title and preaching a sermon on Sundays. It is sacrificial prayer. It is dealing with people who come against you. You have to love them.

As you begin to make decisions to move forward in God, you will have more critics than people praying and believing with you. That is the cross you will carry. Strife and pressures will come against you. Do not be discouraged though; the Bible says in **Isaiah 54:17** that, **“No weapon formed against you shall prosper...”** God is with you and God will never put you to shame.

**Matthew 20:22** continues: **They said to Him, “We are able.”** **Verses 23-24:** **So He said to them, “You will indeed drink My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared by My Father.”** **And when the ten heard it, they were greatly displeased with the two brothers.**

When God raises up people, those who are not ready to pay the price become angry and upset. They are offended. They are always looking, always judging, always comparing; but they are not willing to pay the price. Jesus saw that the rest of the disciples were angry and said to them in **verses 25-27:** **But Jesus called them to Himself and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave.** Great leaders in the Kingdom of God are great servants.

To be a leader in the Kingdom of God, you must want to serve. People think that when you are great in the Kingdom of God, people serve you. Remember that God thinks differently from the way we think. We can be in the church but still think like the world. That is why we have friction all the time in the church. If God’s people in the church start ensuring that the way they think and behave line up with the Word, we would have more peace in the church. The body of Christ would move forward and many people would come to know Christ.

A humble person is a submissive person, a teachable person, a person who wants to change. A humble person brings himself under God’s way of doing things, loves God and loves people. A humble person is one who wants to serve people and does not consider himself but considers others. That is a humble person.

*Unless otherwise stated, all scripture quotes are from the New King James Version (NKJV)*