

What is Humility?

The basic meaning of the word humble is
"low"

Specific definition:

Humility is honestly assessing ourselves in light of God's holiness and our sinfulness.

1. God's perspective of humility

Isaiah 66:2 *"For My hand made all these things, thus all these things came into being," declares the LORD. But to this one I will look, to him who is humble and contrite of spirit, and who trembles at My word.*"

Isaiah 57:15 *For thus says the high and exalted One Who lives forever, whose name is Holy, "I dwell on 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.*

Matt 23:12 *Whoever exalts himself shall be humbled; and whoever humbles himself shall be exalted.*

"At every stage of our Christian development and in every sphere of our Christian discipleship, pride is the greatest enemy and humility our greatest friend."

2. Man's pursuit of humility

True humility means remembering and admitting...

- I only exist because God created me.
- I only continue to exist because He sustains me.
- God's glory is very important; and my comfort really isn't important.
- God deserves attention, and I don't.
- God deserves respect, and I really don't.
- God knows all things, and I know very little.
- God knows the past and the future, and I don't.
- I am a sinner, both by my nature and by my actions, and I offend His holiness every day.
- I am only alive on this earth because He has not given me what I really deserve.
- I cannot save myself, no matter what I do.
- Even my best efforts to save myself are worthless.
- Christ saved me not on the merits of anything I did, but because of Christ's free and abundant love and grace.
- He owns me because He is my Creator and my Redeemer.
- I can think and talk and walk today, because He allows it. And there is no guarantee I will be able to think or talk or walk tomorrow.
- Any good thing I ever do is only because His grace empowered it
- Every ability I have is only because He gave it
- Every strength and every gift is because He freely granted it
- Every dollar I have earned by His allowance, and tomorrow I could lose it all if He willed.
- Any successes in my family have been due to His gracious working
- Any progress in my sanctification is because of His mighty power working in me.
- What God wants for my life is all really matters: His will, His Word, His way.