

# Humility

(Part 1)

*“Therefore if you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, if any comfort from his love, if any common sharing in the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion, <sup>2</sup> then make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being one in spirit and of one mind. <sup>3</sup> Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, <sup>4</sup> not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others. <sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; <sup>7</sup> rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross! <sup>9</sup> Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.”* (Philippians 2:1-11)

You may ask people, “What they want to be?” And many they will answer and you will get different answers, “I want to be doctor, engineer, teacher, pilot, etc.” Or you may hear the following answers, “I want to be rich, famous, powerful, etc.” But hardly you will hear this answer, “I want to be humble!” The word of God tells us the following, *“But who can discern their own errors?”* (Psalm 19:12a) Very rarely we are aware of our pride and discern the bad effect of it in our lives and in the lives of other people around us. If you desire to be something good, just remember it is God who will make you and lift you up. But God will give His grace and favor to the humble, *“<sup>6</sup> But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”* (James 4:6) So if you want to be something then remember to humble down before God, *“Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.”* (1Peter 5:6)

In the above chosen Scripture from the book of Philippians Paul was challenging the church members of Philippi if they are united with Christ and having The Holy Spirit, then they ought to be Christ like minded. Taking the attitude of Christ and behave and decide as Him in your relationship with one another:

**1- Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit:** Selfish ambition and doing your own is sign of pride in your life. You want to go high and high because you consider yourself is something and this is vain conceit. Many people they dream to do and achieve big things, but these very things are not what God had planned for them. Therefore God will not be with them and assist them in their doing because what they are planning to do is motivated mainly with their pride and nothing to do with God’s love and what God had ordained for them to do and to be.

**2- In humility value others above yourselves:** Those who have pride they always think of themselves higher than others. The point here is not to put down yourself, but on what bases you consider yourself higher than others? Check yourself and see if your stand being better than others based on valuable points? If you are better in following God and doing His will then work it out and dedicate your life to help others to walk in God’s ways.

**3- Be willing to associate with people of low position:** *“<sup>6</sup> Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.”* (Romans 12:16)

**4- Not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others:** Humble people are not selfish and think about themselves only, but they are interested to help others and work it out that they will receive their rights.

**5- Humble down and Do not show off:** Christ is God, but while he was on earth *did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage.* People who boast of what they are and what they have they are not humble people. According to the word of God, God’s love “...*, it does not boast, it is not proud.”* (1Corinthians 13:4) Christ *made himself nothing.* The same for you don’t try to make for yourself a prestige and high position. Only do your part in a perfect way and the rest is for God to reward you. Humble down! Christ *“He humbled himself.”* He did not wait for God to humble Him, but He humbled Himself. Sometime people they know how to behave and they know what God wants them to be and to do. But they test the patience of God until God would come and humble them through hardship and trials, and that will be painful.

**6- Be obedient:** Christ was obedient to God the father and He did God’s will in full, *“he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross!”*

**7- Be willing to serve:** Christ *made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant.* Sign of humility is willingness to serve and willingness to start from lower position. People who are not willing to serve God or willing to take of jobs low position they are not humble. In addition how to serve and your attitude in service it show also whether you are humble or not: *“<sup>18</sup> Here is my servant whom I have chosen, the one I love, in whom I delight; I will put my Spirit on him, and he will proclaim justice to the nations. <sup>19</sup> He will not quarrel or cry out; no one will hear his voice in the streets. <sup>20</sup> A bruised reed he will not break, and a smoldering wick he will not snuff out, till he has brought justice through to victory.”* (Matthew 12:18-20) Humble people will not raise their voices, quarrels, answer back or fight when they are working or serving. Humble people will not grumble or complain. Neither they will threaten nor use their flesh power to push their own will and agenda. Humble people they rely on God to answer their prayers, His promises to be encouraged and strengthen with, and with the work of the Holy Spirit in their lives to achieve things for them.

**My dear and beloved:** Humble people are teachable and willing to be corrected and taking an advice, *“Listen to advice and accept discipline, and at the end you will be counted among the wise.”* (Proverbs 19:20) God want to bless you and the purpose of this message is to work it out with God to humble down, check yourself and be willing to accept discipline and correction so that God’s blessings will sure flow in your life as you agree to pray. **My prayer:** *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins and rose again from the dead to give me eternal life. Lord I repent from the sin of pride that ruining my life. Lord takes full control over my life and cultivates in me the fruit of the Holy Spirit and the attitude and the character of Jesus in my life. Lord continues to correct me and show me the areas that I need to be corrected. Lord use trials and circumstances to mold me and bring me out to be the person that you want me to be. This is my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.*