

Pastoral Perspectives

From the Pastor...

Help us to be humble, O Lord

Why is it important to be humble?

1. *One cannot count on any favors from the Lord.* The Scripture tells us that the Lord resists the proud but bestows favor on the humble ([Prov. 3.34](#)).
2. *One cannot expect to have his prayers answered* unless he is humble enough to acknowledge that he needs forgiveness and works at it.
3. *One cannot expect to be forgiven* without humility. The Scripture tells us repeatedly that God shows His mercy to the humble. [Job 22.29](#):
"[For God abases the proud but He saves the lowly.](#)"
4. *Pride goes before disaster* and a haughty spirit before a fall ([Prov. 16](#)).
5. "[Humble yourself before the Lord and He will exalt you](#)" ([James 4.10](#)). Humility is not the most important virtue, charity is. But, without humility, there is no foundation on which to build a spiritual life. Humility is not thinking less of oneself but thinking of oneself less. Humility is not pretending to be no good or worthless. In fact, pride can masquerade in such disguises. So, how humble is a person?

Note the following signs of a lack of humility:

1. Thinking that what one says or does is automatically better than what someone else thinks or does
2. Always wanting to get one's way
3. Arguing with stubbornness and bad manners whether one is right or wrong
4. Giving an opinion when it has not been asked of us, or when charity does not demand it
5. Looking down on another's point of view
6. Seeking to stand out and be noticed
7. Not looking at one's talents and abilities as gifts that have been given by God
8. Using oneself as an example in conversations
9. Not admitting one's own faults or taking correction
10. Not taking criticism gracefully
11. Bragging
12. Having an inflated sense of self-importance
13. Etc.

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