

PURSUIT OF HUMILITY

(developed by Michel Larribeau MTh)

based on the 26 instructions in the New Testament

NOTES FOR DISCUSSION LEADERS

Aim: 'to learn how to walk humbly with God'

COURSE PLAN

TITLE: Pursuit of Humility

AIM: 'to learn how to walk humbly with God'

sample below for preview

SESSION 1 - 'Beware of being put off children'

for the rest of the course contact us

SESSION 2 - 'Beware of drifting out of position'

SESSION 3 - 'Beware of letting your blind spot
catch you out'

SESSION 4 - 'Beware of forgetting the service is
included'

SESSION 5 - 'Beware of being a lone ranger'

SESSION 6 - 'Beware of being ambushed by promotions'

SESSION 7 - 'Beware of missing the call'

for other courses see www.genuineimitation.org.uk

SESSION 1 - 'Beware of being put off children'

Read Matthew 18 verses 1 to 14

to start (note; questions in bold and [suggested answers in italics])

- **which one is the only direct command?** [see verse 10]
- **which ones are indirect commands?** [= v.3, v.4, v.5 and v.6]
- very enlightening and challenging for all Christians on their attitude toward children! See also Mark 10:13-16 [v.14 = Jesus' indignation]
- **what has been your attitude until now?** [any need to repent?]
- the indirect instruction of verse 4 is the main focus point for the aim of our course
- **what was the disciples' preoccupation at that time?** [verse 1 = 'who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?' - in Luk.9:46 it talks of 'argument']
- **what might have they used in their arguments?** [see Luk.9:1-6, Luk.10:17-24 = achievements: Luk.9:28-36 = experiences]
- **is Jesus against achievements and experiences?** [no as he achieved and experienced a lot himself - see also John 14:12]
- **what is the thing above all things that God considers greatness?** [not for us to become like children in every way but to be humble as a child is humble]
- **what conclusion regarding humility can we draw from Jesus' words and actions here?** [if nothing else was said we can conclude without hesitation and doubt, humility is very important to God]
- if humility is very important to God **HUMILITY** must become very important to us and something to pursue at all cost

HUMILITY

- to start with we need to look at the definition: **what is it?**
- **which definition do you agree with the most?** 'humility is ...
 - a. the quality of having a modest or low view of one's importance'
 - b. the quality of not thinking of oneself too highly'

- full biblical definition: see Romans 12:3
- **what common attitude does Paul refer to when it comes to thinking of ourselves?** [thinking too highly = having a too high esteem = pride]
- **do you know of any warnings against it in the bible give?** [Ps.101:5, 138:6, Prov. 16:5, 18-19 (lots in Prov.) - 1 Pet.5:5]
- **what about Luke 18:11-12?** [warning of Jesus regarding the attitude of the Pharisees, religious leaders]
- **what is the opposite attitude Paul could have mentioned?** [even more common = a too low esteem - wrong idea of humility]
- **do you know biblical examples?** [Moses (Exod.3:11, 4:11) - Gideon (Judges 6:15) - Timothy (1 Tim.4:12-16)]
- **what is the main problem with low esteem?** [low esteem makes anybody, like Moses & Gideon, breeds reluctance to do what God says]
- **what is the right attitude, is it a question of not thinking at all?** [Paul in Rom:12 says 'think of yourself', so not a question of not thinking at all (again maybe our idea of humility) but to think with 'sound judgement' or 'soberly', avoiding both extremes = true humility]
- **where does Paul say 'sound judgement' comes from?** [verse 3b = 'in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you' = faith, that is what we believe, from what God says / has said, see Rom.10:17]
- **in what ways is Paul inspired to help humility in Rom.12:3-8?** [drawing attention to the 'grace of God, making the comparison physical body/body of Christ to show difference in gifts, listing few gifts & encouraging their use]
- these different ways plus others will be the object of our attention for the sessions for the rest of this course to help our pursuit of humility

to sum up: counting on the help of the Holy Spirit ...

- to have a positive attitude towards children following Jesus' example and words
- to never despise any children for any reason
- to welcome and pray for children whenever possible
- to know and remember how humility is important to God
- to make sure by all means that humility is one of the ingredients in our life