

PURSUIT OF HUMILITY

(developed by Michel Larribeau MTh)

based on the 26 instructions in the New Testament

AUTONOMOUS STUDIES (questions)

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'

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SESSION 1 - 'Beware of being put off children'

Read Matthew 18 verses 1 to 14

to start

- which one is the **only direct command**?

see verse 10: _____

- which ones are **indirect commands**?

= verse 3, _____

= verse 4, _____

= verse 5, _____

= verse 6, _____

- do you find Jesus' words and actions very enlightening and challenging regarding Christians' attitude required toward children?

- do you think the disciples should have got the message? _____

- did they? see in the next chapter; 19:13-14

- see also how Mark relates the same incident = 10:13-16.

- What are the differences between the 2 accounts?

_____ , _____

_____ , _____

- Which one is the most striking? _____

- **what has been your attitude until now?** any need to repent?

- however the indirect instruction of verse 4 is the main focus for the course aim

- **what was the disciples' preoccupation** at that time of Matthew 18 – in his gospel Luke, in chapter 9:46, adds 'an argument started among them' about it?

- what might have they used in their arguments?

. see Luk.9:1-6, Luk.10:17-24 = _____

. see also Luk.9:28-36 = _____

- is Jesus against achievements and experiences? no as he achieved and experienced a lot himself - see also John 14:12

- **the thing above all things** that God considers greatness is, not for us to become like children in every way, but **to be humble as a child** is humble

- the conclusion regarding humility we can draw from Jesus' words and actions here, even if nothing else was said, without hesitation and doubt, is that **humility is very important & vital to God**

- if humility is very important to God **HUMILITY** must be or become very important & vital to us and something to pursue at all cost

HUMILITY

- to start with we need to look at the definition:
- **which definition do you agree with the most?** 'humility is ...
 - a. the quality of having a low view of our own importance'
 - b. the quality of having a modest view of our own importance'
 - c. the quality of not thinking of ourselves at all'
- a full biblical definition is found in Romans 12 verse 3
**'not think of ourselves more highly than we ought,
 but rather think of ourselves with sober judgment'**
- the common attitude Paul refers to when it comes to thinking of ourselves is
thinking too highly = having a too high esteem = pride
- does the Bible warns us against such an attitude? see
 - . Ps.101:5, _____
 - . Ps 138:6, _____
 - . Prov.16:5, _____
 - . Prov.16:18-19, _____
 - . 1 Pet.5:5, _____
 - . remarkably in **Luke 18:11-12** = parable of Jesus contrasting
 - *the attitude of a Pharisee (religious) _____
 - *the attitude of a Publican (hated figure) _____

- what the other opposite attitude Paul could have warned about and which is even more common?
 = _____
- do you know biblical examples?
 - . see Exod.3:11, 4:11 = _____
 - . Judges 6:15 = _____
 - . 1 Tim.4:12-16 = _____
- the main problem with low esteem is that it makes anybody, like Moses & Gideon, reluctant/unwilling to do what God says
- **the right attitude** advocated by Paul in Romans 12:3 and acceptable to God, is to think of yourself
'with 'sound judgement' = other versions used the word 'soberly', that is avoiding both extremes
- Paul also tells us where 'sound judgement' comes from; end of verse 3b = 'in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you'
- according to Luk.1:45, Rom.4:21 & Rom.10:17, faith = is what we believe, from what God says / has said
- so the question is who are we going to believe?
- in Rom.12:3-8, under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, Paul also helps us to believe the right things which will promote humility;
 - drawing attention to the 'grace of God',
 - comparing the human body & the body of Christ
 - underlining the difference in gifts

listing few gifts

encouraging the freedom of their use

- these different ways plus others will be the object of our attention for the sessions in 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 & 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 & vital to God
- to make sure whatever it takes for humility to be one of the ingredients in our life