

4th December 2016

ONE-ANOTHER-ING: HUMILITY AND HONOURING ONE ANOTHER (Dave Webb-Peploe)

Is it possible to have a good self-image and still be humble? Can a person want to be the best without being conceited? In Philippians 2:1-18 Paul directs us to Jesus Christ, a person equal with God yet whose incarnation and life are the supreme example of humility.

This passage urges us to imitate Christ's attitude.

LAUNCH

Think of a person from history or a fictitious character from a film or a novel who was proud. What made them proud or arrogant?

What scene from the film/ novel /history accounts perfectly describes their pride?

Also spend some time thinking about a character who was humble and how this was shown.

In what sort of situations can you find yourself thinking in a 'proud' way at work, home or even church?

What is the difference between humility and a poor self-image?

Read [Philippians 2:1-18](#)

DISCOVERY & UNDERSTANDING

How can our experience of Christ and his Spirit (v1) help us to achieve the unity Paul desires in verse 2?

How do verses 3-4 help us to understand the nature of humility?

Discuss the following quote from Tim Keller:

"True humility is not thinking less of yourself, it's thinking of yourself less."

How does Christ's example inspire you to think of yourself less?

How did each of Christ's actions illustrate humility and a concern for the interests of others (vv 6-8)?

In your own words, describe God's response to Jesus' humility (vv 9-11).

APPLICATION

In the run up to Christmas, God is calling us to serve one another and look out for the needs of others both at our church and in the local community.

What very practical steps can you take to deliberately put someone else's needs before your own in the next 2-3 weeks?

(You may also want to discuss what was prayed for you on Sunday morning if you were there).

(Bear in mind Ben Davies telling me recently: the middle classes love to talk far more than they love to do. Try to make your plans really concrete)

Sources: IVP online study provides many of the questions and the introduction. I've added a few of my own in launch and application. The Keller quote and question comes from a separate study www.rmpca.org