

Humility Notes



Humility is an important virtue or characteristics. The Bible tells us that many benefits are awarded to the humble. God raises the humble (Job 5: 11), God gives grace to the humble (James 4:10) and God gives the humble joy (Isaiah 29:19). God forgives and heals the humble (II Chronicles 7:14) and the humble should inherit the earth (Matthew 5:5). Humility keeps us near to God and reminds us that He is in control.

Humble means not being proud, (haughty) arrogant or boastful. A humble person is meek in spirit or manner. A humble person is unassuming but not weak and gracious and grateful. He/She gives glory to God and appreciates the help of others.

Sentences with humble are,

- i) *Despite all his achievements, he has remained humble,*
- ii) *He is very humble about his achievements,*
- iii) *She is too humble to let praise go to her head and*
- iv) *He comes from a humble background.*

Jesus was a perfect example of a humble person. He sought no high position and wanted or expected no titles. He did not strive for worldly goodness and was happy, even in the lowest position. Jesus did not contend (struggle) for His rights. He weeded all vanity from His life and he mingled with the lowly. His manners were gentle and unassuming. He remained true to His humility. There were many ways that Jesus showed humility. One was during his baptism and by washing the feet of his disciples.

Individuals can display humility in the following ways:

- * Giving praise and honour to God
- * Being patient with others

- * Working with others
- * Giving others credit
- * Acknowledging their accomplishments without bragging



There was a crowd around Jesus which consisted of two very different sets of people. One set was the Pharisees who thought that they were better than the other people. Jesus noticed this and told this parable:

“Two men went into the temple to pray; one was a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee made sure to distance himself from the tax collector and prayed: ‘Oh God, I thank you that I am not greedy or dishonest like others...’ He went on to brag about the good things he did while the tax collector hung his head in shame, beat his chest and cried out to God. His prayer went more like this, ‘Please God, help me for I am a sinner.’ ”

Jesus ended his parable by saying that God was pleased with the prayer of the tax collector and not the Pharisee.