

The Way of The Cross The Humble Life

Jesus understood that He was God incarnate.

Jesus also understood that He would be subject to the will of sinful people.

Jesus volunteered for the role of Savior knowing who He was and what He was going to do.

Conclusion: Jesus was humble.

The humility of Jesus is demonstrated not just in the descent from glory but the willingness to live here with sinful people and then die here as a criminal.

If Jesus were not humble, He would not have surrendered His will to the Father.

If Jesus were not humble, He would not have taken your sin upon Himself.

If Jesus were not humble, He would not have tolerated the bone-headed apostles.

If Jesus were not humble, He would have judged the religious leadership immediately rather than giving them the gift of time to repent.

One of the ways Jesus came to understand Himself was through the teaching of Scripture.

The prophet Isaiah receives a clear vision of heaven...

I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up...The angels were calling out:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty”

The Apostle John tells us in his gospel that Isaiah was speaking of Jesus in His glory, John 12:41.

However – Isaiah also speaks of the mission of Jesus to die for sins, (Isaiah 53:1-10).

In this great chapter Isaiah uses descriptions such as despised, rejected, stricken, smitten, afflicted, crushed, wounds, oppressed, slaughter, cut off, grave, death.

Here’s another insight into the humility of Jesus that comes from the culture:

Israel was an honor-shame type of culture.

Humility before God was viewed as normal.

Humility before a King was viewed as normal.

Humility before an equal or those below you was not normal. Who does that?

Jesus didn’t use the word humble much but He did do some things to clearly show us humility.

- Jesus described humility, Mt 5:2-12
- Jesus applied the word humble to Himself, Mt 11:28-30
- Jesus lived a humble life, Mt 8:20
- Jesus died a humble death, Mt 27:27-44

Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it's thinking of yourself less. C.S. Lewis

Christians can develop humility by reviewing the gospel.

Review how the gospel has changed you. Review who you are – sinner by birth and by choice. Compare that to the value that God has ascribed to you. As you are, as is and with all faults God paid a price for you that is stunning.

Home Group Discussion Questions:

1. What are some general observations you can make from the two passages in Isaiah or from the Sunday morning teaching?
2. How are you doing on the Humility v Pride equation? It might be a challenge to say you are humble so maybe just look at this in terms of a struggle with pride – do you see evidence of pride in your life?
3. What do you think a good response should be to the Biblical teaching that we were
Weak, Sinners, Enemies but then we were saved by the grace of God....what kind of effect do you think will occur in the life of the Christian who meditates on this?
4. What's your response to the C.S. Lewis quote:
Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it's thinking of yourself less. How does someone do that?
5. Do you know any truly humble people? Would you mind sharing some observations of that person with the group?
6. How can a Christian develop humility?