

January 3, 2016

Am I Humble Enough?

Isaiah 57:15 (NIV):

For this is what the high and exalted One says—he who lives forever, whose name is holy: “I live in a high and holy place, but also with the one who is contrite and lowly in spirit, to revive the spirit of the lowly and to revive the heart of the contrite.

Isaiah 66:2b

Humble: to be made low

Contrite: crush, crumble, beat into pieces, powder (Is 57:15); maimed (Is 66:2)

We need constant reminders to humble ourselves. Even Moses, the most humble man on the face of the earth (Numbers 12:3), lost it (Numbers 20:1-12).

Why does god want us to humble ourselves?

1. So we can hear truth and won't die by our own arrogance
⇒ God owes us nothing! No matter what we do, He is not obligated to do anything for us, including save us from His wrath. (Job 40:6-9; Job 41:10-11)

Matt 18:1-3 (NIV):

¹ At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, “Who, then, is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?”

² He called a little child to him, and placed the child among them. ³ And he said: “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴ Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

2. So we can have peace and joy in relationship with Him

Psalm 16:11 (NIV)

¹¹ You make known to me the path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.

Phillipians 4:4-7

God values relationship, humans value accomplishment, sometimes at the expense of relationship.

Intimacy of relationship experienced with Christ is of far greater value than any position to which I might attain, any scope of responsibility I might be given, or any task that I could ever perform. ---David English, Campus Crusades for Christ

How do I know if I am humble enough?

- Am I bothered when things don't go my way?
- Do I refuse to accept my situation?
- Do I refuse to accept my role in creating the messes in my life?
- Am I offended?

God gives grace to the humble (James 4:6, 1 Pet 5:5)

God lifts up the humble (Luke 18:14, James 4:10, 1 Pet 5:6)