

**NUTSHELL:** HUMILITY a right opinion of yourself based on the truth of God's word tempered with total submission to His Word and enjoying the constant process of giving Him all our cares (covers every issue of life). 1 Peter 5:5-6 Humble yourselves.. casting all your cares... Oneness is achievable with faith & faith is clothed with humility (the lower one totally dependent on the Highest One who cares so much).

Extended Sermon Notes:

## HUMILITY

Graham Fabian 7.02.10

Last week: Oneness: possible by faith. Luke 18: pray always, not give up and be in faith. God's heart is that the body of Christ would be one. Disagreement is a great opportunity to go through right process. We are designed to be different, creative and be knit together- some things however are not debatable. We are believing for a greater unity in this House and amongst other fellowships. Unity of God – as They are one, may we be – why? So the world will know that God sent Jesus. Oneness: difficult in a marriage; throw children in to the mix – greater level of difficulty; consider the body of Christ – possible in faith with self-less (or Christ-full) lives.

In His presence there is a fullness: our level of expectation determines what we receive or settle for; must settle for what God wants. Last week we saw the destructive power of fear – as a detractor (opposing force to faith). Faith is a total dependence upon God; pride is one of the greatest restrictors to Oneness happening – holds on to things it can't fix.

**Key text: 1 Peter 5:1-11 See the Amplified Version.**

In context, written to suffering saints – through humility would have the ability to keep walking in faith and unity. Matthew 18:1-4 – humble ourselves *as children*; Matthew 18:28-30 – Jesus describing Himself as humble – yoke easy, burden light (humility often linked with lightening burden). Isaiah 6:2 – God looks to the humble; Psalm 51 – speaks of a broken and contrite heart or a humble and teachable attitude. See **Philippians 2**: the emptying of Christ; made Himself of no reputation; humbled Himself.. the darling of heaven in a manger. **2 Chronicles 7:14** If My people will *humble themselves*...

See story of Nebuchadnezzar Daniel 4 God opposes the proud; king became as an animal

Titus 2; explains the grace of God has appeared to all men, teaches us to say no to ungodliness.. not all receive; not all submit; neither do all obey. God opposes the proud.

**HUMILITY:** Jesus stood up many times and made absolute statements about Himself – that were right – He had a right opinion of Himself. Need a full understanding of humility – we can say some things with absolute certainty but must have full understanding of 'humility' – used 20x NT: four words but same root word which is best represented by 'lowliness of mind and submitting under' meekness (strength reigned in) can be interchangeable eg. Full of power but submitting.

**Some understanding as defined in other dictionaries:**

- Feeling of weakness, unimportance, poor (humility is not a feeling)
- Recognising God and others are responsible for achievement in life - Bill Gothard
- Grace of the soul allowing someone not to think of themselves more highly than they ought (Unger)

### **HUMBLE: FULL OF POWER BUT SUBMITTING TO GOD**

'esteeming oneself as altogether contemptible and odious in oneself; attended with a mortification of the disposition to exalt oneself, a free renunciation of one's own glory, and an exaltation of Christ above all'  
 Jonathon Edwards

We can do nothing of ourselves; all glory is God's. **CHRISTLIKENESS is humility.** Grace is given here (the divine influence upon the heart and its reflection in life with joy) – God's ability to work on our heart to do right – to fulfill His purposes; the ability to accept and think more highly of others; the ability to not judge a man by natural thinking nor by what is seen on the outside. (eg. Whether Christ is preached with wrong motives or not, what matters is Christ is preached). Romans 14:17: kingdom of God is about righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit: Romans 14 tackles the pride in 'disputable matters'. 2 Timothy 2:14 tackles the pride in intellectual pursuit where arguments over words arise.

We are on an amazing journey; we must humble ourselves; have a right opinion. The truth is that as a believer I am the righteousness of God in Christ; that I am justified; greater is He that is in me than he that is in the world;; etc.

Nevertheless 1 Peter 5:5 says 'humble yourselves'.. v6 'casting your cares'

One of the greatest detractors of humility is CARES.

Casting: a banking term; you place your care knowing the Father is the Caretaker (Burden Bearer) – it is just as wrong to worry as it is to do anything else Jesus told us not too.

Can't play with cares; place of pride to hold on to them – not trusting God; silently assumes it is not safe.