

Question: "What is Humility? A humbleness, meekness, lack of pride a modest or low view of one's own importance. [Philippians 2:8](#) [Matthew 11:28-30](#) [Matthew 18:3](#)

Paul was concerned that his readers grow in humility. Let's try to define humility.

Humility alone takes the right attitude before God, [James 4:6](#), [Isaiah. 66:2](#), [Proverbs 16:18](#), [1 Corinthians. 10:12](#)

When someone is humble, they are focused on God and others, not self. Even their focus on others is out of a desire to love and glorify God.... A humble person's goal is to elevate God and encourage others. [2 Corinthians. 5:15](#).

Paul urges us to present our bodies as living sacrifices to God. We are not to be conformed to this evil age, but to be transformed by the renewing of our minds so that we prove in practice God's good, acceptable, and perfect will. (12:1-2)

Often we can see the attitudes and behavior of pride in others. But the point is, even if we can hide our pride from others, we cannot hide it from God.

Pride is endemic to the fallen human heart. Paul outlines four steps to develop true humility:

1. If we want to develop true humility, we must always keep God's grace in view.

[Romans. 1:5; 15:15-16](#); [1 Corinthians. 3:10; 15:9-10](#); [Eph. 3:8](#)

If it had not been for God's grace, we would still be in our sins, headed for hell. And now that we are saved, whatever natural or spiritual gifts that we have are due to God's grace.

[1Thessalonians 5:9](#), [Ephesians 2:8](#)

2. To develop true humility, work on going lower, not higher.

The danger is not that we would think too lowly of ourselves, but too highly. Paul does not tell us that we need to build our self-esteem or our self-confidence to succeed. But the Bible does say that those who believe in themselves are cursed [Jeremiah. 17:5](#), [2 Corinthians 3:5](#); [Philippians. 4:13](#) [Proverbs 3:5](#)

3. To develop true humility, remember that all that you have, including your faith, comes from God.

In verse 4, Paul says that we all have different functions in the body. In verse 6, he says that "we have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us," and that we are to exercise these gifts "according to the proportion of [our] faith. [1 Corinthians 12:4-6](#)

This attitude eliminates pride. How can I boast when I am only doing what God has graciously enabled me to do? [2 Corinthians 10:17](#)

4. To develop true humility, determine what God has given you to do and seek to use it for His glory, trusting Him for the results.

As a pastor, I'm concerned because I see many Christians who do not think about these things with sound judgment. They do not evaluate what God has given them to do and then get on with doing it in faith with a view to giving an account someday to God.

If you do not evaluate yourself correctly, you may not use what God has given you for His purpose and glory, and you may face His displeasure when you stand before Him. What you want to hear the Lord say is [Matthew. 25:2](#)