

“The Gospel According to Luke: What is the Kingdom of God?
Our Desperate Need of Humiliation” (Part 4)
Luke 18:9-17

Christian humiliation is for exalting the worth and sufficiency of Christ. It is to show that I am needy and insufficient and that my worth is not the highest worth. It is living as if I need what Christ has provided for me, both in salvation and sanctification. It is living as if all good in my life is directly and ultimately because of Christ, not me.

Self-exaltation is our default position. It is the belief that our worth being affirmed, our importance being acknowledged, and our contributions being praised is the highest good we can experience.

“Clothe yourselves, all of you, with **humility toward one another**, for ‘God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.’” (1 Peter 5:5b). **“Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time He may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on Him, because He cares for you.”** (1 Peter 5:6-7)

- Luke 18:9-14:
 - **Self-righteous:** They have no need of the righteousness of Christ.
 - “For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.” (Matthew 5:20; cf. Romans 10:2-3)
 - **Contempt:** Devaluing someone else’s worth for your exaltation. Assigning no value to someone.
 - **Pharisee:** They were incredibly respected and were considered holy, socially.
 - **Tax Collector:** They were incredibly hated and looked at with contempt, socially.

Pride is “thinking more highly of myself than I ought” (Romans 12:3). Pride is living life with me in mind, not the spiritual well being of others in mind (Philippians 2:3). Pride is wanting to be seen as self-righteous, not as a sinner in need of grace.

- **The Pharisee’s Prayer, Biblically:** “Father, if not for Your grace, I would be hopelessly lost. If not for Your grace, I would be condemned just like an extortioner, adulterer, or a tax collector. If not for Your grace, I would not have any desire to fast or give of my resources for Your glory. Thank You for Your grace that both saved me and empowers me to live for Your glory. Amen.”
 - We **are justified** by humiliation before God, and **we are sanctified** by humiliation before God.
 - “Whoever conceals his transgressions will not prosper, but he who confesses and forsakes them will obtain mercy.” (Proverbs 28:13)
 - In the Christian life, exaltation is followed by humiliation. “But whoever would be great among you must be your slave, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all.” (Mark 10:43b-44)
- Scriptures to reflect on:
 - “In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16)
 - “Since He (God) Himself gives to all mankind life and breath and everything.” (Acts 17:25). “What do you have that you did not receive?” (1 Corinthians 4:7)

Continued →

Worship: I Stand Amazed — Norton Hall Band
Sovereign Over Us — Aaron Keyes

Jesus, Thank You — Sovereign Grace Music

Closing Song: Christ Is Mine Forevermore — City Alight

Service Times: Sundays: Sunday School 9am/Prayer 9:45am/Church 10:30am; Mondays: Legacy Practicum 6pm;
Tuesdays: Bible Study — Women 6:30pm/Men 7pm; Thursdays: Prayer 6:20pm/Church 7pm

- *“For they loved the glory that comes from man more than the glory that comes from God.” (John 12:43)*
 - *“So that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.” (Philippians 2:10-11)*
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Announcements:

★**DONATIONS:** Please see the February Newsletter for more information about this collection. ***TODAY is the LAST day for this collection!***

★**FELLOWSHIP LUNCH:** We are having a Fellowship Lunch TODAY, immediately following the worship service. Everyone is invited to stay to enjoy the food and the fellowship with us!

★**COMMUNION:** We will be partaking of and celebrating Communion together as a Church Body NEXT Sunday, March 1st.

★**CHURCH NIGHT OF PRAYER:** Our monthly Church Night of Prayer is NEXT Sunday, March 1st, from 5:30-7pm. During this prayer time we will be praying for specific prayer requests within the church body. Please consider joining us for a portion of this time or for the full time of prayer.