

king's chapel

Community Group Discussion Guide

Week of April 21, 2013

This Week's Focus: Humility is a necessary element needed in order to submit to others. It is also a powerful weapon in the war against sin and Satan.

This Week's Text: 1 Peter: 5:5-9

*But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Be wretched and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you. **James 4:6-10***

"Humility is not thinking less of yourself but thinking of yourself less." C.S. Lewis

"Humility is confidence properly placed." Dr. Neil Anderson

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change; courage to change the things I can; and wisdom to know the difference.

Related Texts: Romans 12:3, Isaiah 14:12-14, 46:9-10, Proverbs 19:21, Psalm 115:3, John 8:31, 16:13, 17:15-17, Ephesians 6:14, 2 Corinthians 10:3-5, James 1:13-15, Matthew 4:1-11

Observations and Questions for Discussion:

- What has God spoken to you about regarding the sermon?
- Discuss the areas of life and some boundaries of Peter's imperative to submit to your leaders.
- What is humility? What is it not? Why is it hard for you to be obedient to Peter's command to humble yourself?

- What is “sinful” pride? How is this different from realizing your value, dignity and identity in Christ?
- What does it mean to humble yourself under “God’s mighty hand”?
- Pastor Lou mentioned two ways by which we try to “play God” that can lead to anxiety. When the future is unknown and when it is unchangeable. Share an experience of anxiety that was caused for these reasons.
- What is the definition of God’s sovereignty and providence? How are they antidotes for anxiety?
- Where in your life are you struggling with pride and anxiety?
- How do you “cast” your anxieties onto God? What is the motive?
 - Give an example of casting your anxieties on Jesus.
- What does it look like to be sober-minded and watchful in your life?
- What are the two extremes to avoid when dealing with Satan’s schemes? Reference Matthew 4:1-11 and James 1:13-15.
- What is Peter’s depiction of Satan? What can we learn from it?
- How do we resist the devil and his schemes? Reference verse 9, John 8:31, 16:13, 17:15-17, and Ephesians 6:14.
- Read 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 and Philippians 4:8-9. Discuss the role of thinking in the battle against the enemy.
- How has 1 Peter given you strength to stand firm in the true grace of God?

Gospel Celebration:

- Jesus is the True Lion of Judah ... The King! The devil prowls around “like” a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour. Jesus was devoured (cross) that we might have life? Revelation 5:5 *And one of the elders said to me, “Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can open the scroll and its seven seals.”*
- Jesus Christ is the Chief Shepherd who calls us His flock. He told us to fear not, that we who know Him will follow Him and hear His voice, for He is our shelter and defender. John 10:7-18.

Our Response:

- Examine our hearts, repenting of our sinful pride.
- Spend time in prayer, talking to the God who cares for you, bringing your anxieties before Him.
- Rejoice, knowing that God who cares for and loves you is sovereign over all things!

Next Week’s Text: 1 Peter 5:9-14