

Humility – Jesus Teaches About Greatness

Scripture Text: Luke 9:46-48

Matthew 5:5

Defined: a modest or low view of one's own importance, humbleness.

1. Background of Lesson Text – Luke 9:1-45

- 1-6 12 given the power to cast out demons and heal
 - V. 6 – went everywhere
- 7-9 Herod the Tetrarch wants to meet Jesus
 - V. 9 – Confused – he knows this can't be John the Baptist
- 10-17 Feeding of the 5,000 men – recorded in all four Gospel accounts
 - Disproves the “Law of Diminishing Returns”
 - V. 17 – Ate until they were stuffed!
- 18-22 Jesus asks who the people say He is!
 - More familiar with Matthew 16:13-20
 - V. 21 – told to tell no one. They had to reach this conclusion on their own.
- 23-27 The cost of discipleship
 - V. 23 – this is a daily task
 - V. 25 – Possessions don't save!
- 28-36 Mount of Transfiguration
 - V. 28 – Takes Peter, James, and John
 - V. 30 Moses = Law giver
 - Elijah = represents all prophets
 - V. 35 Jesus is the source of authority now!
 - Adds: “Hear Him!”
- 37-42 Disciples can't heal
 - Jesus can!
- 43-45 Jesus warns of the reason He came to Earth

2. Lesson Text

A. Luke 9:46-48

- 46 Wonder who is to be the best
Peter, James, and John went to the Mount of Transfiguration
I always wonder what Thaddeus did
- 47 Jesus read their minds
Grabs a child – the Master Teacher
Object lesson
- 48 Must receive Jesus
How? Obedience
Least shall be the greatest

B. The Greatest

Little boy in a baseball hat
Stands in the field with his ball and bat
Says, I am the greatest player of them all.
Put his bat on his shoulder and he tosses up the ball.

And the ball goes up and the ball comes down
Swings his bat all the way around
The worlds so still he can hear the sound
The baseball falls to the ground.

Now the little boy doesn't say a word
Picks up his ball, he is undeterred
Says, I am the greatest there has ever been.
And he grits his teeth and he tries it again.

And the ball goes up and the ball comes down
Swings his bat all the way around
The worlds so still he can hear the sound
The baseball falls to the ground.

He makes no excuses
He shows no fear
He just closes his eyes
And listens to the cheers.

Little boy, he adjusts his hat
Picks up his ball, stares at his bat
Says, I am the greatest, the game is on the line.
And he gives his all one last time.

And the ball goes up when the moon so bright
Swings his bat with all his might
And the worlds so still as still can be
And the baseball falls and that's strike three.

Now it's supertime and his mama calls
Little boy starts home with his bat and ball
Says, I am the greatest that is a fact.
But even I didn't know I could pitch like that!

Says, I am the greatest
That is understood
But even I didn't know
I could pitch that good...

3. The Ultimate Example of Humility: Jesus

- A. Jesus' self-description – Mt. 11:28-30
- B. His bold and controlled defense – Jn. 8:13-59
- C. When being questioned by Pilate, our Lord submitted Himself to the human authority of the very beings He created – Jn. 19:10-11; Col. 1:15-17
- D. In His last hours on Earth, He willingly submitted to death – Phil. 2:8
- E. Paul used Jesus as an example when he wrote to a church that was experiencing internal conflicts – Phil. 2:1-11
 - 1. He remained Lord while becoming human
 - 2. He couldn't cease being who He is, yet He took on human existence
 - 3. If Jesus could do all of this, for us, surely, we can put aside personal ambition and selfish desires for the sake of being a united spiritual body
- F. Remember, no healthy relationship can be maintained without humility.
- G. When we are practicing humility, we can be afraid of people taking advantage of us. Remember, the same One who submitted to God's Will is the same One who furiously overturned corrupt practices of those in the temple (twice) – John 2:13-17.

Jesus is the ultimate example of humility.

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