

# LIFE GROUP LESSON

## Unreasonable Faith - Week of March 10

### Introduction

So please take your time and consider how would you answer the following questions. 1) Would you consider yourself a good person? How would you describe humility? Who would you consider to be a humble person and why? Lastly, do you see many people today exhibiting the two traits we focused upon in this past week's message: 1) Self-awareness and 2) Humility?

### Background:

The Apostle Paul wrote the church at Philippi when he was in a jail cell. Paul had helped to plant the church there in the Macedonian city of Philippi. His major theme throughout this letter is to communicate that joy and contentment in God can be observed even in the midst of suffering, disappointment and yes, behind bars when you have been arrested for your faith in Christ. It seems totally "unreasonable" for our ears to hear and our eyes to read these words from Paul, "For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ and become one with him...I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death." Philippians 3: 9-10

We know this is the season of Lent but who really wants to be willing "to suffer with him, sharing in his death"? Does this seem a bit unreasonable for most people in our culture? Is it also a bit unreasonable even for people who are Christian?

As you prepare to read the text Philippians 2:3-11 ask these three questions:

- 1) What is the Holy Spirit saying to you?
- 2) What are you going to do about it?
- 3) How can we help you?

### Read Philippians 2:3-11

- 1) What is the Holy Spirit saying to you?
  - a) How does Paul define humility?
  - b) What are the three traits mentioned here? It is reasonable to see others trying to impress each other, blowing their own horn to acknowledge their contributions to the workplace, club, or local church. What would an "unreasonable faith" look like for followers of Jesus if we sought to truly think of others better than ourselves? What could we do to show appreciation for those around us who seek to be faithful each day?
- 2) What are you going to do about it?
  - a) What is one simple way you can begin to take an interest in others?
  - b) Who are some people around you who go overlooked? They are unappreciated for what they do for others? How can you affirm them and their efforts? What next step do you need to take to be more like him or her?
- 3) How can we help you?

If one of the traits of humility is to be self-aware and to be a servant like Christ, then on a scale of one to ten with one being "no way" and ten being "I'm all in", how likely would you be willing to have a spiritual mentor, coach or simply a sister or brother in Christ to have permission to speak to your blindsides? Would you be willing to ask someone you trust, "what in me needs to die so Christ in me can be born fresh and anew?"

# Unreasonable Faith

**Read Mark 10: 17-27.** In keeping with the last question asked when Jesus said to the young ruler, “There is still one thing you haven’t done...” For the young ruler it was to go and sell all that you have and give it to the poor, then come follow me.” For the young ruler his possessions had become his god. He trusted in them far more than God. For him to follow God he had to part with the god of possessions. What do you ultimately trust? Is there anything in your life more important to you than Jesus? Zacchaeus, the tax collector who climbed a tree to just get a look at Jesus was willing to part with his money, give a large portion to those whom he had taken advantage of, and then give additional money to the poor. Jesus said, ‘Salvation has come to your house today.’ For some it might be money, others vanity and outward appearance, for some status, and so on. What would be your “you lack one thing”?

**Closing Prayer:** Lord, we bless you that you first humbled yourself to leave the beauty of heaven and came to earth to take away the ugliness in us and bring a work of beauty in all of our souls. Forgive us for ignoring our blindsides, empower us to live more like Jesus to care for those around us, not to think more highly of ourselves than we should, and to serve others as you served us with a sacrificial love. Amen.

## One Year Bible Reading For This Week:

Mar. 10: Numbers 14:1-15:16, Mark 14:53-72, Psalm 53:1-6, Proverbs 11:4  
Mar. 11: Numbers 15:17-16:40, Mark 15:1-47, Psalm 54:1-7, Proverbs 11:5-6  
Mar. 12: Numbers 16:41-18:32, Mark 16:1-20, Psalm 55:1-23, Proverbs 11:7  
Mar. 13: Numbers 19:1-20:29, Luke 1:1-25, Psalm 56:1-13, Proverbs 11:8  
Mar. 14: Numbers 21:1-22:20, Luke 1:26-56, Psalm 57:1-11, Proverbs 11:9-11  
Mar. 15: Numbers 22:21-23:30, Luke 1:57-80, Psalm 58:1-11, Prov. 11:12-13  
Mar. 16: Numbers 24:1-25:18, Luke 2:1-35, Psalm 59:1-17, Proverbs 11:14

**Text: Philippians 2:3–11, Prov. 11:2, Mark 14:32–42**

## PLAIN TRUTH

\_\_\_\_\_ of our \_\_\_\_\_ nature  
leads to \_\_\_\_\_ who is \_\_\_\_\_.

## What Christian Humility ISN'T:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

## What IS Biblical Humility?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ on God
2. A \_\_\_\_\_ in God for our  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. An unwavering \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_

**March 10, 2024**