

**PSALM 25: 4-5 "SHOW ME YOUR WAYS, O LORD" GROUP BIBLE STUDIES –
LEARNER'S PACKET - LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES**

LESSON #3 – GOD'S WAY OF HUMILITY

GOD'S WAY – Proverbs 16:18 says, "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall." With this, and other verses like it, Christians have been taught to be humble. One man had succeeded so well that his church recognized him for his spirit of humility. They even gave him a gold pin to honor his disposition.....which he wore to church.....for all to see. They took it away. That's why our lesson looks at God's way of humility and pride. Let's begin with prayer:

THE PRAYER -.Dear Lord, we poor miserable sinners confess unto You that we are, by nature, sinful and unclean. We confess that we have sinned against You in our thoughts, words and deeds. But we also confess that You have raised us up from the dust, cleaned us from our sins, adopted us into Your family, given us gifts, and instructed us to use those gifts to praise our Savior. May we do so gladly and well. In the Name of Jesus we ask it. Amen.

THE WORLD'S WAY – Oliver Wendell Holmes said "Humility is the first of all other virtues -- for other people." That's true, even for some Christians.

THOUGHT: People are strange: they want to be in the front of the concert, the back of the church, and the center of attention. I wonder if that is what God really wants. Let's take a look at two great men who share some things in common. Both were _____. Both were _____. Both were _____ by God. Both gave their lives in His service.

SCRIPTURE SEARCH 1 – Look at the following Scripture texts and answer the questions which follow:

PASSAGE	QUESTION	ANSWER
Exodus 3: 10	Who was being called and for what purpose?	_____
Exodus 3: 11	What was Moses humble reaction?	_____
Exodus 4: 1	After God explains, is Moses ready for leadership?	_____
Exodus 4: 10	After God gives Moses miracles to do, is he ready?	_____
Exodus 4: 13	What sums up Moses reaction to God's call?	_____
Acts 9: 4, 15	Who was being called? For what purpose?	_____
Acts 9: 20	After getting his sight, what did he do?	_____
Acts 9: 22	What happened next?	_____

FIRST APPLICATION:

Moses didn't put himself on a pedestal. Instead, he quietly tried to step aside and let someone else do the job of delivering God's people from slavery. God, according to Exodus 4:14, was not pleased with Moses' position. In fact, it says that God's anger _____against Moses. False humility is not God's way. What words would you use to describe Moses pseudo-humility:

Humility comes when the Lord's people stand as _____as they can; look at all their strengths and accomplishments and measure them against _____. Only in this way is God honored, our talents used, and we see just how little, in comparison to the Savior, we have accomplished. Only in this way do we accept God's estimate of ourselves.

Paul jumped right in to do the work that the Lord had prepared for him. That was because Paul had a better idea of true humility. Look at the following passages and see what Paul says about boasting:

2. SCRIPTURE SEARCH - THE WAY OF GOD IS GOOD AND BEST

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PASSAGE	QUESTION	ANSWER
1 Cor. 1: 28-29	How does God prevent boasting?	_____
1 Cor. 4: 7	What makes us all equal and not boastful?	_____
1 Cor. 9: 15-17	Why does Paul not boast in his preaching?	_____
2 Cor. 11: 30	What does Paul boast about?	_____
Galatians 6: 14	About what is Paul willing to always boast?	_____
2 Thess. 1: 4	What else would cause Paul to boast?	_____
2 Cor. 10: 17	What sums up all of Paul's thoughts concerning pride?	_____

THOUGHT & ILLUSTRATION: Paul knew that the closer a person comes to the Lord Jesus, the _____ he will be in his own estimation. That's because we no longer are comparing ourselves with imperfect people, and are comparing ourselves with the Lord God. When we compare ourselves to the sacrificial humility of the Savior, pride becomes an _____.

When we compare ourselves with the Lord, there is another thing that becomes an impossibility. We can't be a Moses trying to hide behind our false humility and inability. Look at some of these common church situations and ask yourself what is the normal response of people:

SITUATION	RESPONSE
The choir is in need of good voices.	_____
The congregation needs a Stewardship director.	_____
The congregation needs greeters.	_____
The Sunday School Superintendent needs teachers	_____
People continuously hide behind their _____ rather than trusting in the Lord's _____	

Saint Paul tried that once. Look at 2 Corinthians 12: 7ff and answer the questions:

v. 7	What had happened to Paul?	_____
v. 7	Why did God do that?	_____
v. 9	What was God's point?	_____

When we stop hiding behind false humility, God's strength can be made perfect in our weakness. When Christians say, "Lord, I don't have the ability, but You do", then we are following God's ways. It is the way that gives Him the credit, glory and success. That's the point of the leader's last story.

THE WAY OF PRAYER: We quote a prayer from Peter Marshall: "Lord, when we are wrong, make us willing to change. And when we are right, make us easy to live with." In Jesus' name. Amen.