

ActNow! (Applying Christ's Teaching NOW) follows the weekly sermon series of TPMC, and challenges us to apply and put into practice the biblical truths we hear each week. It is the recommended Bible discussion material for TPMC's Connect Groups, and leader's notes are available to all Connect Group Leaders and at the Information Counter.

Sermon Series: TPMC VALUES Humility – To Be Like Christ

Philippians 2:1-11

Rev Adrian Ng

SERMON SYNOPSIS

- **What is humility?** Humility is a character trait that enables one to lower oneself to another level in status & social order, give up one's rights *willingly* and value others *lovingly* and their interests above one's own – even when they do not appreciate us. **Humility as one's life's value** must be lived out *in a community*, that is, in one's relationship with at least another to be authenticated, witnessed and evidenced in one's life. One cannot be regarded as humble apart from a relationship with others.
- **As disciples of Jesus, we are to model Christ's humility.** Jesus *gave up* His rights willingly & *lowered* Himself as the Son of God, the Second Person in the Triune Godhead, and *took on* the form of a human being (God's created being). Jesus *came* to earth as a vulnerable, helpless newborn baby, suffered, mocked, flogged, spat at, and died on the cross – an excruciating, slow and painful death – to reconcile undeserving and rebellious sinners like us and everyone in the world to God the Father (Romans 5:6-11) because He *lovingly valued* us human beings and *count* us more significant than Himself.
- **Why be humble?** We are to grow in humility because humility is needed in every *healthy relationship* and *godly witness*. Basically, **humility is a mark of Christian Discipleship**. If there is no humility in a relationship or if we choose not to develop humility, that relationship will break. And if we show no humility in our personal, professional, familial, community or church relationships, and with the world watching our humility through how we live and relate to others, we will not represent God well nor reflect God well especially to our children & pre-believers.
- **How to develop humility?** Firstly, remember who ***we are*** – We are united with Christ & comforted by His love (Philippians 2:1). We now belong to Christ, and we are not our own. Through the Holy Spirit's empowerment, we choose the ways of God – which are made known through God's Word – by surrendering & dying to our own human ways. As we keep choosing God & His ways with the Spirit's help, we will be awed by God how He has transformed us into the image of Jesus!

Secondly, remember who ***we represent*** – Christ! The more we model Christ – the more we would display humility – and people around us would see Jesus in & through us. We would represent Jesus well and that is how people would identify us as His disciples. We would thus conduct ourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ (Philippians 1:27).

- **Conclusion** – If we call ourselves disciples of Jesus, people will expect us to be humble. Humility is an expected Mark of Discipleship. Let us spur one another to be **Transformed People Modelling Christ (TPMC)**!

ActNow! (Applying Christ's Teaching NOW) follows the weekly sermon series of TPMC, and challenges us to apply and put into practice the biblical truths we hear each week. It is the recommended Bible discussion material for TPMC's Connect Groups, and leader's notes are available to all Connect Group Leaders and at the Information Counter.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

RELATE

1. Share about a person whom you think is humble. Share why you think so.

REFLECT

2. *Identify* HOW Jesus, the Son of God humbled Himself from the appended Scripture Texts. *Share* your **thoughts & feelings** with regards to Christ's choice to humble Himself *in order to* save you & all mankind from sin and death and reconcile us to God the Father.

[Verses to help us go deeper: Isaiah 53:2-11; Philippians 2:6-8.]

RESPOND

3. Identify a relationship that you would like to develop and grow humility in. Share the steps that you will take in developing humility in this relationship.

PRAYER POINTERS

- Praise and worship our Lord Jesus for humbling Himself in obedience to the Father for our salvation.
- Thank the Lord for loving and valuing us so much as He counts us more significant than Himself.
- Pray for one another in the CG, for all worshippers in TPMC and the global Church to choose to develop greater measure of humility in our lives and relationships.

SCRIPTURE TO MEDITATE ON

"Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others." [English Standard Version]