

Genuine Humility

by Zac Poonen

This sermon delves into the innate desire in humans to be considered the greatest, whether in worldly pursuits like politics, business, or even within Christian churches. The speaker emphasizes the need for genuine humility, highlighting the danger of false humility and the importance of learning from Jesus and little children to truly embody humility. Genuine humility is described as natural, without pretense or artificiality, and is a key characteristic for those seeking to enter God's kingdom.

Scripture: Matthew 18:1, Philippians 2:3, James 4:6, Proverbs 11:2, Colossians 3:12, 1 Peter 5:5, Micah 6:8, Ephesians 4:2, Romans 12:3, Proverbs 22:4

Topics: "Genuine Humility", "The Pursuit of Greatness"

Description

This sermon delves into the innate desire in humans to be considered the greatest, whether in worldly pursuits like politics, business, or even within Christian churches. The speaker emphasizes the need for genuine humility, highlighting the danger of false humility and the importance of learning from Jesus and little children to truly embody humility. Genuine humility is described as natural, without pretense or artificiality, and is a key characteristic for those seeking to enter God's kingdom.

Transcript

When the disciples came to Jesus and asked who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven That is a very common question that All people either ask or want to know wherever they are Who is the greatest person here We find that in the world. We find it in politics. Everybody was competing to be A minister or a chief minister or a prime minister or Whatever it is always wanting to go to the top.

Who's the greatest in every sphere? Whether it's the military or politics or businessmen. They want to be the richest businessmen in the world always there is a competition to be the greatest and unfortunately In almost every Christian Church It is the same There are people who desire me to be the greatest and Despite all that we have preached in CFC. I Find that in many people in CFC to be known as Important Longing to become elders I've often said first qualification to be an elder is you have no desire to be an elder and When they are removed from eldership, they're offended and Many just leave It's all because of this innate desire to be the greatest and even who people who pretend that they are not offended When they are removed from eldership inside the desire is still there to be the greatest Now to be great to be known as the greatest as a greatest person who's not offended This desire to be the greatest in some way or the other is there in us and unless it is crucified It will hinder our spiritual growth If we are not seeking to be greatest in position, then we want to be known as the greatest to humble ourselves Or the greatest in

humility of the great.

It's always this desire to be the greatest whatever is valued in a church if it is speaking in tongues that's valued in a church, then they want to be known as the greatest in speaking in tongues if it is preaching then the greatest in preaching if it is humility then they want to be known as the greatest in humility Whatever it is but who is the greatest is a question that comes in the hearts of all children of Adam and These different examples I gave you are the very subtle ways in which it can come to anybody sitting here if you're not watchful and Pride is most dangerous Pride is most dangerous When it wears the garments of humility remember that When it wears the garments of pride, it's easily observable by everybody Like in a politician or a businessman the arrogance But when pride is clothed in humility the garments of humility That is the danger that many in CFC face and that's why Jesus said you got to learn from a little child unless you are converted and Become like children. You shall not enter the kingdom of heaven And what do we see about he said in verse 4 whoever then humbles himself not just humble himself But humbles himself as this child means a little baby He is the greatest in God's kingdom so what is the Main characteristic in a little child humility. It is a complete lack of pretending It's not pretending to be humble I've seen many many Brothers and sisters in CFC who pretend to be humble that that's arrogance and pride most people can't detect it but I can see through it straight away and God can see through it much more the thing about a child is remember Not just humble it does not pretend to be humble because you can get a reputation for pretending to be humble Pretending not to be offended It's all pride arrogance So It's it's not easy to be like a child.

I'll tell you that You really need the help of the Holy Spirit you try to do it yourself It's like trying to be holy yourself you struggle and determined to be holy it'll be a counterfeit It'll be the holiness of non-christian religions Which doesn't get rid of filth in the heart Jesus said genuine humility can be found only in a child and for that we must meditate on What is passing through is what I've done for many many years. What is it that's passing through the mind of a child? I want my mind to be like that Not just the external Appearance Because humility is inward. It's a question of what you think of yourself the Bible speaks of loneliness of mind that means it is in the mind that humility must Be present what I think of myself and what I think of others It's not just thinking I'm smaller than others Forcing myself to think I'm not so good.

That's stupidity Because Jesus said learn humility from me and you think Jesus is always thinking I'm not so good. I'm not capable I can't preach that's nonsense. That is pride To go around saying I'm not so good.

I can't preach that is pride People think it is humility. There's a lot of counterfeit humility in Jesus. There was a complete absence of that he He never thought I'm no good.

I can't preach he preached better than anybody else in the world You know what? He also said He said I am humble of heart. Would you dare to say that? You know, no, if I say that I'll be proud the humblest man on earth said it Jesus said learn from me for I'm humble of heart genuine humility The most humble man that walked on the earth could say about himself I am humble Because he was not trying to get a reputation for humility. If you go around saying I am humble you'll say oh I lose my reputation Because in the back of my mind is what is my reputation if I say that I'm humble You see how conceited we are even in our pursuit of humility Only two people from whom we can learn humility from Jesus Christ, he said learn from me and the other is from a little child, so I Asked myself what was going through in the mind of Jesus? Was he always saying I'm no good.

I'm such a sinner. I can't do anything No, that was never he can do like he said I can do everything yet. He was the humblest man who walked on the earth He wasn't timid in the way he spoke and shy and the head hanging down never he was bold He was humble when he whipped the money changers out of the temple I'm saying all this because I have seen in a lot of CFC people of false humility Which is a counterfeit and the reason is they are not learning from Jesus They're not learning from little children They've got their own concepts of how to appear humble before others, that's an acting if I try to Pretend to be humble before others Like a man pretending to be a woman as soon as he speaks, you'll know it's not a woman That's how it is.

It's as crazy as a man trying to be a woman putting on a woman's clothes But if you're speaking like a man, and that's how it is when a man pretends to be humble Keep this picture in your mind when you're pretending to be humble. You're like a man Frank dressing up like a woman But as soon as you speak everybody knows or someone with discernment knows this guy's not humble He's just pretending a lot of people. There's a lot of pretence of humility from the pulpit from song leaders from preachers Try to act humble.

It's all humbug and nonsense and If you remain like that year after year after year something's wrong. We are not learning from children Not learning from Jesus, so it's a wonderful thing when we have children to say Lord. I want to learn from this little baby What humility is because you said? That I have to be humble like this child.

I don't see Jesus When he was on earth, I could have watched him carefully Now I can only imagine what he's like But I do see a little child So I have before me a living example Humility that I can learn from And I want to encourage you my dear brothers and sisters Let's all of us pursue this To look at a little child and Say that is genuine humility, but it's not even aware that it is humble. There's no child who thinks I'm quite humble People don't think I'm proud See the moment such thoughts go through my mind people don't think I'm proud. You're not like a child.

No You're very aware of your humility you see that's how subtle it is and The proudest people are the ones who put on the garb of humility So beware of that. Let's learn from children. There's the main thing about the child is there's no artificiality Just natural.

It's like that way all the time See an artificial humility Is something that we put on in front of people? We want to impress in a church, for example But we won't be like that in our place of work Because there we don't have to pretend to be humble. We are there are no christians there to Admire us but in the church We want to act humble and talk humble. That is hypocrisy And we'd be surprised you may think you're not a hypocrite You'd be surprised to see how much hypocrisy there is in you And if you ask god to show it to you, he'll show it to you See god never shows anything to anyone unless he's desperate to know If you go to god desperately and say lord show me the pride in me Show me the acting in me.

Show me the hypocrisy. Show me the false humility. He'll show it to you but If you're casual You'll never find it.

You'll remain in the same condition forever The lord says if you seek me with all your heart, you'll find me And I fear that many are not seeking god with all their heart To learn how jesus was humble or how a child is humble And that's why we remain completely ignorant of the pride in our artificial humility

Video: <https://sermonindex2.b-cdn.net/OmwBmlbi9p0.mp4>
Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/zac-poonen/genuine-humility/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net