

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. What does being a friend of the world look like?
2. What does submitting to God look like?
3. How do we try to act like God?
4. What area of your life do you need to submit to God today?
5. Being honest with yourself, when was the last time you criticized or judged someone either verbally or in your heart? Commit to stop this attitude and ask God's forgiveness.
6. How can we include God in every decision we make?
7. What is a Biblical worldview and why should we have it?

Sermon Study Guide

Pastor Phil Newby – May 5, 2019

SERMON NOTES

THE HUMBLE LIFE, PART 2

James 4:1-17

PART ONE – FOR REVIEW

1. THE HUMBLE LIFE BY EXAMPLE

- A) The best demonstration of true humility is the LIFE OF JESUS CHRIST.
- B) PALM SUNDAY is one of the many examples of the humility of Christ.
 - 1) Jesus was hailed as king entering Jerusalem, yet He show humility riding upon the FOAL of a donkey. (See Zechariah 9:9, Matt. 21, Mark 11, Luke 19, John 12)
 - 2) The Bearer of all of mankind's sin rode into Jerusalem, the place of His sacrifice on the cross, on a lowly beast of BURDEN. (Matthew 11:28-30)

2. THE HUMBLE LIFE AS EVIDENCE

- A) The main idea in James CHAPTER 4 is that real, genuine faith in Christ requires a humble heart and is evidenced by a humble life.
- B) The root of all sin is PRIDE, the opposite of humility.
 - 1) Definition of pride: The desire to take the PLACE of God.
 - 2) Definition of humility: The desire to SUBMIT to God.

HOW DO WE PURSUE THE HUMBLE LIFE AND NOT PRIDE?

1. WE MUST STOP BLAMING OTHERS WHEN THE TRUE BATTLE IS WITHIN OURSELVES.

James 4:1-3 (CSB)

¹ What is the source of wars and fights among you? Don't they come from your passions that wage war within you? ² You desire and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and wage war. You do not have because you do not ask. ³ You ask and don't receive because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.

- A) Walking by our sin nature is characterized by PRIDE.
- B) Walking by our spiritual nature is characterized by HUMILITY. (see also Romans 7:14-25)

Answers to fill in the blanks:
PART TWO
2. THE WORLD OR GOD A) SELF-DECEPTION B) GIVEN
3. SUBMITTING A) WHOLE LIFE B) RELATIONSHIP
4. PLAY A) OTHERS 1) TEAR DOWN, SPEAK AGAINST 2) CONDEMNATION
B) OUR OWN LIVES 1) SOVEREIGN 2) HOLY SPIRIT 3) EXCEPTION 4) BIBLICAL

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SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

PART TWO

2. WE HAVE A CHOICE TO MAKE – _____.

James 4:4-6 (CSB)

You adulterous people! Don't you know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? So whoever wants to be the friend of the world becomes the enemy of God.⁵ Or do you think it's without reason that the Scripture says: The spirit he made to dwell in us envies intensely?⁶ But he gives greater grace. Therefore he says: **God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.**

A) To be a friend of the world and claim to be a Christian is the biggest _____.

B) God's grace is greater than anything this world offers us, and it is _____ to the humble. (Matthew 5:5)

3. THE PURSUIT OF HUMILITY STARTS WITH

_____ TO GOD.

James 4:7-10 (CSB)

⁷ Therefore, submit to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.⁹ Be miserable and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom.¹⁰ Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

A) Submitting to God is saying, "Though I do not understand my situation, I bow before you and submit my _____ to you."

B) Drawing near speaks of our _____ with Christ. (See also Matt. 23:12, Luke 14:11)

SERMON NOTES CONTINUED

4. WE MUST STOP TRYING TO _____ GOD.

A) PLAYING GOD IN THE LIVES OF _____.

James 4:11–12 (CSB)

¹¹ Don't criticize one another, brothers and sisters. Anyone who defames or judges a fellow believer defames and judges the law. If you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge.¹² There is one lawgiver and judge who is able to save and to destroy. But who are you to judge your neighbor?

1) *Criticize* and *defame* are the same word in the Greek language. It means to _____.

2) *Judge* does not refer to evaluation, but _____.

B) PLAYING GOD IN _____.

James 4:13–17 (CSB)

¹³ Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will travel to such and such a city and spend a year there and do business and make a profit."¹⁴ Yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring—what your life will be! For you are like vapor that appears for a little while, then vanishes.¹⁵ Instead, you should say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that."¹⁶ But as it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil.¹⁷ So it is sin to know the good and yet not do it.

1) God's will is twofold: His _____ control of all things, and His commands for Godly living.

2) Knowing God's will involves yielding control of our lives to the _____ . (Ephesians 5:15-21)

3) Knowing God's will involves aligning our lives with what the Bible teaches without _____ . (Psalm 119:11, Colossians 1:9-10, 1 Peter 2:15)

4) Knowing God's will involves developing a _____ worldview in our hearts and minds. (Romans 12:1-2)