CHARIS YOUTH

Series: Winning in Life

Lesson 3: Humility

About This Lesson

This lesson focuses on humility as another key to winning in life. Humility is the opposite of pride. Often in today's culture, the youth are encouraged to be egocentric and brag about themselves. Many young people view humility as a good trait in leaders, but don't try to cultivate it in their own lives. By learning about humility from God's Word, they will see that choosing humility over arrogance will help them win in life.

Key Takeaway: Humility is the key to more of God's power in your life.

Key Verse: Proverbs 22:4 *By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches and honor and life.*

Teaching Outline:

I. HUMILITY AND THE FEAR OF THE LORD ARE THE KEYS TO RICHES, HONOR, AND A GOOD LIFE

Proverbs 22:4 *By humility and the fear of the LORD are riches and honor and life.*

A. Humility is the opposite of pride. Pride means thinking you are always right and can never be wrong.

B. Humility means that you are teachable!
   1. Jesus gave some names of the Holy Spirit: Comforter, Helper, and Teacher.
   2. If you want to be led by the Holy Spirit and hear God's voice, you will have to be teachable!

C. If you want more of God's power in your life, humility is the key.

D. The "fear of the Lord" means a deep reverence and respect for God and His Word.

1. Pride is also the opposite of the fear of the Lord. You care more about what you look like and what others think about you rather than what God says.

II. GRACE AND HUMILITY

1 Peter 5:5–9 *Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud,*
But gives grace to the humble." [6] *Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,* [7] *casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.*
[8] *Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.* [9] *Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.*

A. Grace can be defined as God's power and ability to help you do what He has called you to do.

B. There is a direct correlation between grace and humility. With humility, there is a flow of grace, God's power, and God's ability.

C. Humility and a submissive attitude go hand in hand.
   1. Submission means that you care about other people and you care about God. It's not all about you and what you want.
   2. The world's philosophy and motto: "Have it your way!"
   3. A biblical philosophy and motto: "God, I want it to be your way!"

D. The devil devours people through pride. Lucifer was filled with pride and wanted the angels of heaven to worship him.

E. Pride will make you not sober. You won't be able to think right or walk a straight line. Pride causes people to make very poor and harmful decisions—decisions that can harm themselves and harm people close to them.

III. HUMILITY CAN BE CLEARLY SEEN IN THESE THREE AREAS:

A. A person with godly humility will hear counsel.
   1. When someone is humble, teachable, wants to grow, wants to succeed, and does what's right in God's eyes, they will seek wise and godly counsel!
   2. Prideful people reject godly counsel and seek approval from fools.

Proverbs 19:20 *Listen to counsel and receive instruction, that you may be wise in your latter days.*
Proverbs 13:20 *He who walks with wise men will be wise, but the companion of fools will be destroyed.*

B. Humility will cause you to live with integrity.
   1. You will want to do the right thing even when no one is looking.
      Proverbs 20:7 *The righteous man walks in his integrity; His children are blessed after him.*
      Proverbs 28:18 *Whoever walks blamelessly will be saved, but he who is perverse in his ways will suddenly fall.*

C. People who are humble will value a good conscience.
   1 Timothy 1:18–19 *This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may wage the good warfare, [19] having faith and a good conscience, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck.*

Bottom Line:
Humility can be seen in your life when you hear and follow good counsel, live with integrity, and value a good conscience.

Small Group Time:

1. We have discussed three essential keys to winning in life: faith, love, and humility. During this lesson, we emphasized the importance of humility for success. Most people probably don't think of humility as being essential for success.

- Why do you think most people disregard the importance of humility?
- Proverbs 19:20 says to *"Listen to counsel and receive instruction, that you may be wise in your latter days."* Who are some of the people you go to for counsel?
- Do you think it could be dangerous to make big decisions in life without getting the right advice?
- What are some big decisions in life that you think it would be extra important to get counsel for? (where to go to school, who should be your closest friends, where you should work, etc.)

2. Integrity means to do the right thing even when no one is looking. Share a personal example of a time you were challenged to show integrity.

- Why would this quality be important to be successful in life?
- What does it mean to have a good conscience? Can God speak to you through your conscience? When you follow a good conscience, how does that affect your faith?
- What are some ways you can strengthen your faith? Is there anything you are believing God for right now?

Declaration:
"I will embrace humility because I want to be teachable, follow good counsel, live with integrity, and value a good conscience."

Youth Weekly Journal:

Handout, Email, or Download

- **Question:** How will you live a life of humility this week?
- **Pray:** Ask God to reveal areas of pride, and confess them.
- **Read:** Search for verses that talk about humility. Read a couple of them each day. Look at the verses before and after them to get the context. Write down the key concepts these verses show you about humility.
- **Live It:** Pick an area where you could benefit from a more teachable or submissive attitude. Make an effort to ask questions, listen to advice, and apply the advice.
- **Create:** Think about what humility means to you. Make a list of the people, alive or from the past, who display or displayed humility. Choose one and imagine what that person would say to you and how they would encourage you to show humility.

EXTENDING THE LESSON

Icebreaker Question: How many pets have you had in your life? What was your favorite?

Opening Activity Suggestion: Begin by asking the young people how they would define someone who shows humility. Have them name people who fit their definition of humility and what they admire about those people. End by listing ways Jesus showed humility.

Opening Affirmation: "God wants me to win in life and has given me His playbook. God's keys to winning in life are faith, love, humility, generosity, and diligence."

Giving Time: Matthew 7:7 *Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. [8] For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. [9] Or what man is there among you who, if his son asks for bread, will give him a stone? [10] Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent? [11] If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father who is in heaven give good things to those who ask Him! [12] Therefore, whatever you want men to do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.*

God only has good things to give. When you ask Him for something, you have His promise that His answer will be good. God is a giver! You don't have to ask God whether you should give to Him. The answer is "yes." You are made in His image, so be a good giver!

BEYOND – ADDITIONAL APPLICATION FOR CHURCH OR HOME

Challenge: Humility and a submissive attitude go hand in hand. Jesus showed humility when He washed His disciples' feet. Think of a way you can selflessly serve someone else this week. Film a brief video or write a summary of how you showed humility, how it affected you, and how it affected the person you served. Share the video or summary with the group next week.

Biblical Worldview: Most teens dislike seeing someone with an arrogant attitude, but social media thrives on posts and reels that are completely self-centered. The Bible says we should be clothed with humility. Encourage the young people to develop the habit of being teachable, submissive, listening to wise counsel, living with integrity, and valuing a good conscience. As they live differently from the world, they will find themselves on God's team of winners.

Outreach/Missions: Missionaries recognize the importance of humility to reach people with the Gospel message. An attitude of humility helps them embrace cultural differences, serve others, build relationships, and seek advice from natives. Pray for the missionaries your church supports to exhibit humility in their interactions with those they serve.