



## Come and See... Deeper Study Notes

### Whose name's in lights? (John 3:22-36)

Take some time to reflect on these questions relating to the sermon:

- John the Baptist was prepared to follow his calling whatever the cost. How much are we prepared to give up to follow Jesus?
- John says that Jesus is his 'Bridegroom'. Who or what is your 'Bridegroom' (your most important possession)? Is your joy complete now that you've met Jesus?
- John (the author) and John (the Baptist) in their testimonies are saying loudly in this book that Jesus is the One who is here now and has come to bring eternal life. Are we following their example and being signposts for others to see Jesus?

### Deeper Study Questions: Humility

- Have a look in a dictionary at the word humility. What themes does it seem to accentuate?
- The origin of the word may come from the Latin word *humilis*, meaning "low." Many people think that being humble means grovelling in front of others or thinking they are no good and others are better. What do you understand by this term?
- Take a look at Proverbs 11:2. How does this biblical understanding of humility contrast what you've just considered?
- True spiritual humility is an outward expression of an appropriate inner, or self, regard. Consider what G. K. Chesterton had to say on this topic 100 years ago:

*"What we suffer from today is humility in the wrong place. Modesty has moved from the organ of ambition. Modesty has settled upon the organ of conviction; where it was never meant to be. A man was meant to be doubtful about himself, but undoubting about the truth; this has been exactly reversed. Nowadays the part of a man that a man does assert is exactly the part he ought not to assert—himself. The part he doubts is exactly the part he ought not to doubt—the Divine Reason. ... We are on the road to producing a race of man too mentally modest to believe in the multiplication table."*

- In our passage this week, John is a good example of Godly humility. If you were to write a dictionary definition based on what you know about John, what aspects might you accentuate as spiritual humility? If you're in a group, some could consider Jesus instead.
- What does the Bible say about humility? Reflect on Philippians 2:3 would you agree with this statement: Humility is recognising that you need God's help, knowing you can't truly succeed in your own strength. It is thanking God for your talents and gifts, and giving him credit for your accomplishments.
- Jesus is our ultimate example of any godly characteristic. Take a look at the following passages, how do they expand/reinforce your understanding? Matthew 11:29; Phil 2:5-8
- Thinking about humility in action, take a look at: Proverbs 15:1, Eph. 4:31-32, Eph. 3:8 and 2 Corinthians 12:11. How might you explain these varying aspects of humility to a new disciple? How can we grow in these areas?



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Here are some more Bible verses on humility that might be helpful:

### **Ephesians 4:2**

Be completely humble and gentle; be patient bearing with one another in love.

### **Romans 12:16**

Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

### **1 Peter 3:3-4**

Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewellery or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight.

### **Proverbs 22:4**

Humility is the fear of the Lord;  
its wages are riches and honour and life.

### **2 Chronicles 7:14**

If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land.

### **Mark 9:35**

Sitting down, Jesus called the Twelve and said, "Anyone who wants to be first must be the very last, and the servant of all."

### **Matthew 6:2**

So when you give to the needy, do not announce it with trumpets, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and on the streets, to be honoured by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full.

### **Micah 6:8**

He has shown you, O mortal, what is good.  
And what does the Lord require of you?  
To act justly and to love mercy  
and to walk humbly with your God.

### **Galatians 5:13**

You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.

### **John 3:30**

He must become greater; I must become less.

### **Mark 10:45**

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.

### **John 13:14**

Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another's feet.

### **Psalms 8:4**

What is mankind that you are mindful of them,  
human beings that you care for them?