



## THE ESSENTIAL HUMILITY IN MINISTRY



### Scripture: James 4:10

There is no genuine ministry without humility. John Flavel said, "They that know God will be humble. They that know themselves cannot be proud."

The more we know God, the more

humble we become. The Bible says, Jesus entered the temple and cast out the businessmen and their business. Then, there was room for the sick and healing took place (**Mat 21:12-14**). Similarly, we must cast out all that blocks humility in our lives and make room for Jesus, so we can experience healing in our lives. Here are a few humility screeners that will help us to screen our hearts to hurl the humility blocks from our lives.

### 1. Dependence on God and Others

We are called to serve God by serving people by depending on God. God is not looking for our strength, but He is looking for men and women who are noted for their total dependence on God. The more godlier we become, the more gladly, completely, and constantly we rely on God. Paul says that to serve is to totally depend on Christ (**2 Cor 3:4-5**). Nehemiah's policy was to pray to God and ask people (**Neh 1:11**), unlike Ezra who was ashamed to ask for help. Some people help others but their pride stops them from taking help from others. Humble people ask for help from others when in need. We should learn to discern what to ask God and what to ask people.

### 2. Praises and Glory

Humility is not self-depreciation but God appreciation. Being praised or not praised reveals our humility. Our attitude should be like that of John the Baptist (**Jn 3:30**). We can give glory to God alone, when we can sense the unworthiness in us to enjoy God's blessings; otherwise, we will grumble. In the parable of workers hired at different times by the master, the workers grumble because they felt they deserved the wages (**Mat 20:1-16**). However, in **Lk 17:7-10**, the unworthy servant has only gratitude. **Deut 8:2-3** reminds us that God humbles us to see the motives of our heart and also to teach us dependence on Him. Let us remember that our father in heaven always sees all our secrets whenever we do anything.

### 3. Correction and Confession

The way we respond to correction reveals our humility level. Peter was rebuked by Jesus in public in a very strong way, but he never took offence (**Mk 8:32-33**). But when Judas was corrected by Jesus he took offense and got away from Jesus and betrayed Jesus to the high priest (**Mk 14:6-10, 11**). If we

are humble, we will not stumble. Humble people will own up their mistakes and confess to the ones whom they offended. David also committed terrible sins, but he never lost the throne because he was willing to acknowledge and confess his sins. God and people cannot stand those who deceive others by justifying their sins or covering up their sins.

### 4. Suffering Injustice in Silence

How is our inner peace and joy when we are unjustly insulted? As in **Mat 5:11-12**, do we display consistent meekness and gentleness when people ignore or abuse us? Some things in life we have to endure for a time, some things for a life time, and some things we have to ignore. We can endure or ignore only if we have the power of hope of meeting our master. Thus, let's cultivate inner beauty; gentle, gracious kind that God delights in (**1 Pet 3:4**).

### 5. Delays and Denials in Life

In spite of fearing the Lord, delays are inevitable in our life. At such times, let us not cook up our own fires and then lie down in great torment (**Isa 50:10-11**). When prophet Samuel delayed, Saul took things in his own hands and lost his ministry forever. God's delays determines the duration of our ministry. God denied Paul to keep him humble and make him dependent on God's grace. Visions make us conceited but thorns keep us humble. If you do not get a blessing, then it is not safe for you to have one. When we are humble we will be in God's pace in God's place. Remember *no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless* (**Psa 84:11**).

### 6. Our Service for Anyone

Some people's pride will allow them only to serve certain people. But, when we are humble like Jesus, we can wash the feet of anyone without discrimination and prejudice (**Jn 13:1-17**). God delights in us when we joyfully do anything for God and others in true service. Let us honor one another above ourselves (**Rom 12:10**). Neither be selfish nor try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves (**Phil 2:3**).

Bible says—*"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 will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land* (**2 Chr 7:14**)".

May God enable us to have the essential humility in our life in order to offer a service that God delights. God bless you!

- Pastor Benny

# PRISCILLA'S CORNER



## Parenting Preschoolers

By Pastor Frani

The preschoolers are in the age group of 3 to 5 years. This stage of parenting can become most frustrating as the kids are very active and trying for their own independence. The age level characteristics are as follows:

They are physically very active and restless, but tire easily. Their large and small muscles are developing. Mostly, they use their large muscles and learn through sense. They want to do things but they have a very limited attention span.

At this stage of their life, they are curious, and ask questions. They cannot distinguish between fact and fantasy. They learn best through imitation, play, and by using their senses. Although they can memorize, they do not easily understand and forget easily. Their attention spans relatively short, three to six minutes. They cannot concentrate and stay focused on a particular thing for more than five minutes.

They are socially beginning to adjust with others, in the process they learn through imitation and are very self-centered.

They are ruled by emotions with not much developed impulse control. By the age of five, they can express their anger using words instead of getting physical or throwing a tantrum. They can see a connection between emotional outbursts and negative consequences. Empathy also begins to emerge around age of four.

The preschoolers also have certain spiritual characteristics, which they are slowly developing at this stage. They are developing concept of right and wrong, but may blame others for wrongdoing. They are full of wonder and can be led to feel the reverence for God. They may not be able to distinguish between the father God and Jesus. They think of God in a personal way and Jesus as a friend. They are influenced by external rewards and punishments. At this stage they can also pray. Spiritual maturity is directly related to the child's emotional maturity.

Having understood the physical, cognitive, social, emotional, and spiritual characteristics of the kids, now we

will learn some parenting tips as well. Here are the key parenting tips for preschoolers.

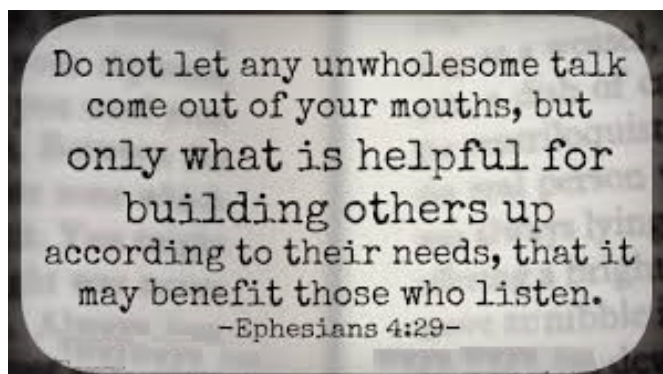
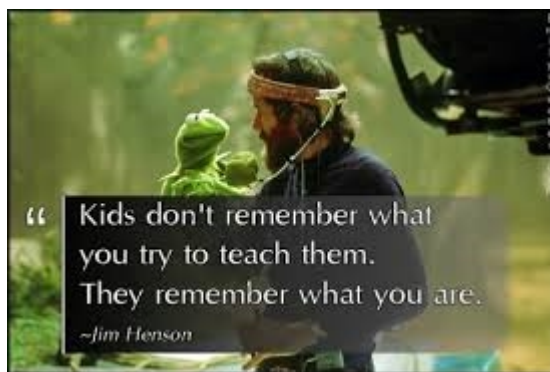
### 1. Be consistent.

Consistency is the key for preschoolers. When you are not consistent with the routines of feeding, sleep, potty times, play times, discipline etc., the preschooler gets confused and may throw a lot of temper tantrums. If at sometimes you restrict them and at other times allow them to have their way, then they will receive confusing signals and may not understand your expectation. At this stage of their life the child is developing a concept of right and wrong and so the parents need to be very consistent with their routines. If you are consistent, then at least 90% of the time your child is fairly doing well.

### 2. Be positive:

The preschoolers are very active and restless, and they are learning to throw temper tantrums. You as a parent can be always tempted to say—don't touch this, don't scream, don't hit your little sister, don't leave my hand and run on the road, etc. But the child will want to repeat the wrong behavior in spite of your yelling. You must observe the positive behavior of the child and affirm it by a pat of a praise saying, you are a very good boy because you did not hit your little sister. This goes a long way with the preschoolers and since they are rewarded for a good behavior, that behavior will repeat in the child. Concentrate on the positive behaviors of the child and affirm the same.

*to be continued..*





## Jonah and the Big Fish

God said to Jonah, "Go to Ninevah and tell the people there that I am not happy with them. Tell them to change their ways."

Jonah heard God but he disobeyed God. He was afraid to go to Ninevah. Instead of doing as God had asked, Jonah chose to hide from God.

Jonah got on a big ship and sailed off. The ship was going to a far away place.

In the middle of the ocean, there started a storm.

The waves were getting bigger and bigger. The wind was blowing harder and harder. The sailors were afraid and all of them began praying to God.

Jonah was in the bottom of the boat hiding from God. The captain went to him and asked him to pray with the rest of the men. Jonah told them the storm was his fault. He told them that he hadn't done what God asked him to do. He said to them, "Throw me in the sea. The seas will be quiet and it will save you."

The men didn't want to throw Jonah in the sea. Jonah insisted. The storm was getting worse. The waves were higher. The wind blew fiercely. Finally, the men agreed and threw Jonah in the sea.

Suddenly the storm stopped. Everything was quiet. There were no waves, no wind, no storm. The men were happy for this miracle and they thanked God.

God had a huge fish swallow Jonah to keep him from drowning. Jonah stayed in the fish for three days and three nights. He prayed to the Lord from inside the fish. He asked God to forgive him.

He thanked God for His mercy from the bottom of sea, God heard every prayer.

God spoke to the huge fish and the fish put Jonah on the beach. God reminded Jonah to go to Ninevah. This time Jonah went.

He warned the people that God was not happy the way they were acting. God would destroy the city if they did not change. "You have forty days and Ninevah will be destroyed if you don't change", he said. He walked the streets for three days telling the people.

The people understood the message from God. They changed their ways. God was happy with this. He didn't destroy their city. Everyone was pleased except Jonah.

Jonah went out sulking. He sat alone under the sun. God made a beautiful plant that grew up so tall and provided shade for Jonah. Then, God made the plant wither away. "Why did you do that?" Jonah asked.

"You felt pity for a plant but you had none for a city full of people?" God answered. "That city was full of people that repented when they knew I was offended. That made me very happy."

Jonah finally understood.

God is wise and merciful and forgiving.



**Bangalore South Church**

**Time: Sundays at 4:30 pm**

**Age Group: 4 to 18 years**

**Experience: Lively worship, God's Word, and Fellowship in Kannada and English**

# News & Notes

## What About Our Commitment to Christ ?

I have in my hand a letter written by a Communist student at an eastern university after he had gone to Mexico and become a Communist. He wrote to his fiancée, breaking off their engagement. Here is in part what he said. This was given to me by the minister of the Presbyterian Church in Montreat, North Carolina, where I live.

Here is what it says:

We Communists have a high casualty rate. We're the ones who get shot and hung and lynched and tarred and feathered and jailed and slandered, and ridiculed and fired from our jobs, and in every other way made as uncomfortable as possible. A certain percentage of us get killed or imprisoned. We live in virtual poverty. We turn back to the party every penny we make above what is absolutely necessary to keep us alive.

We Communists don't have the time or the money for many movies, or concerts, or T-bone steaks, or decent homes and new cars. We've been described as fanatics. We are fanatics. Our lives are dominated by one great overshadowing factor, THE STRUGGLE FOR WORLD COMMUNISM.

We Communists have a philosophy of life, which no amount of money could buy. We have a cause to fight for, a definite purpose in life. We subordinate our petty personal selves into a great movement of humanity, and if our personal lives seem hard, or our egos appear to suffer through subordination to the party, then we are adequately compensated by the thought that each of us in his small way is contributing to something new and true and better for mankind.

There is one thing in which I am dead earnest and that is the Communist cause. It is my life, my business, my religion, my hobby, my sweetheart, my wife and mistress, my bread and meat. I work at it in the daytime and dream of it at night. Its hold on me grows, not lessens as time goes on. Therefore, I cannot carry on a friendship, a love affair, or even a conversation without relating to this force, which both drives and guides my life. I evaluate people, books, ideas, and

actions according to how they affect the Communist cause and by their attitude toward it. I've already been in jail because of my ideas and if necessary, I'm ready to go before a firing squad.

I want to ask you do you have that much dedication to the Lord Jesus Christ?

*Courtesy: Billy Graham*



- \* Transformation in kids who attended VBS.
- \* Healing for all those who are sick.
- \* Breakthrough in Bangalore South Church.
- \* Couples to serve God full time.
- \* Exponential growth in quality and quantity of the Church.
- \* For the growth of English service, Kannada service, and Kids ministry.
- \* For own place of worship.

### Sermons for this month on the topic— “Broader Through Ministry”

03.05.15—“Unworthy Servants” by Pastor Benny

10.05.15—“Attitudes that Stop Us from Serving God”  
by Pastor Benny

17.05.15—“The Kind of Man God Uses”  
by Pastor Frani

24.05.15—“The Essential Humility in Ministry”  
by Pastor Benny

31.05.15—“Empowering Gifts” by Pastor Benny

*These messages are available in MP3 format. Please contact the church office for the same.*

#### OUR VISION:

To reach Karnataka and the globe with the compassionate heart of Jesus Christ.

#### OUR MISSION:

To establish self-propagating, self-governing, self-supporting spirit-filled churches with equal focus on prayer, worship, fellowship, discipleship, ministry, and evangelism.

## Contact Us

Office Address : # 57, 1st Floor, 6th Cross, Pai Layout, Hulimavu Main Road,  
Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore - 560 076 Phone : 080-26483080 Mobile : 98440 36202  
E- mail : touchcompassionate@gmail.com