

## Humble Yourself Part 1

[Jas 4:5-10 ESV] 5 Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? 6 But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble." 7 Submit yourselves therefore 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, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Be wretched 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.

### I. Intro

#### A. Last week:

1. A divided love for Christ is a war within us.
2. Evidence of our faith is the continual change to become more like Christ.

#### B. Last week was a text of great challenge, but we have made it through challenges before:

1. The Great Sherman ChickFilA famine of 2016, and 2023
2. The Blue Bell famine of 2015
3. The toilet paper famine of 2020
4. We have endured hard things, we can meet the challenge!

#### C. This week: a reminder that God is right there:

1. He is for us
2. He is empowering us
3. He gives more grace
4. We have no power in our flesh, but we have all the needed power in the presence of Christ.

#### D. Today is an intro for several messages that are in this paragraph

#### E. Today we see some instruction, but we see more of God's character.

### II. Text

#### A. Verse 5:

1. The character of God is seen in this question
2. The position of God is declared in this question

#### B. Verse 6: More declaration of God's character

1. God gives more grace
2. God opposes the proud
3. God gives grace to the humble

#### C. Verse 7: Key verse in your battle!

#### D. Verse 8: When you draw near, He draws near, more to learn about God

#### E. Verse 9: Be honest and be transparent, and let God transform you.

#### F. Verse 10: Humble yourself, God will build you up

### III. Point

#### A. The Holy Spirit

1. God lives in us.
2. God lives in us for a purpose, His purpose.
3. [Jhn 16:5-15 ESV] 5 But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' 6 But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. 7 Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. 8 And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; 10 concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; 11 concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. 12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the

things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. 15 All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

4. The war that is mentioned in James 4:1, are at war with the Holy Spirit also residing in you.
  - a) You have the Spirit of God calling you to holiness and right response to God
  - b) You have the flesh desiring to be fed
  - c) We know God is at work in the midst of the war.
5. What you feed will find strength
  - a) Feed the flesh, live in selfishness
  - b) Feed the Spirit, live in right fellowship with God.

#### B. The Grace of God

1. More Grace
2. [2Co 12:1-10 ESV] 1 I must go on boasting. Though there is nothing to be gained by it, I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. 2 I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven--whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. 3 And I know that this man was caught up into paradise--whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows-- 4 and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. 5 On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses-- 6 though if I should wish to boast, I would not be a fool, for I would be speaking the truth; but I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. 7 So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited. 8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me. 9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 For the sake of Christ, then, I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities. For when I am weak, then I am strong.
3. God's amazing grace allows us to overcome the flesh.
4. You are blessed with Grace to overcome whatever comes your way.
5. Grace allows you to experience the Love of God as you learn to walk by faith with God.
6. Grace is to be our help, not our excuse:
  - a) [Rom 6:1-4 ESV] 1 What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? 2 By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? 3 Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? 4 We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.
  - b) Let grace do its work in you

#### C. The Transforming Power

1. Truth to build on found in this passage: Humility, Grace, Power
2. Humility and grace are connected in an intimate way.
3. [Mat 5:2-12 ESV] 2 And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying: 3 "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 4 "Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted. 5 "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. 6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied. 7 "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy. 8 "Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God. 9 "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. 10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. 11

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. 12 Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

4. Resist the devil and he will flee
5. Submit to God and humble yourself before the Lord and HE WILL LIFT YOU UP!
6. There is no shortcut here, there is only the practice of faith.

IV. Close