



## Family Worship Guide – 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:1-4

### MEMORIZE

1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:6 Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that He may lift you up in due time.

### READ

Read 1<sup>st</sup> Peter 5:1-10

Leadership is not to be taken lightly and not to be entered into quickly. The intention for entering leadership is to be for God’s glory. We see that clearly in this text. Remember, Peter is talking to people who are being highly persecuted for their faith. In this context, he gently reminds his brothers that leadership is not for personal gain. God is calling us to a higher purpose. This passage is speaking specifically to elders and pastors but can be applied to everyone for as we learned last week all believers are a part of the holy priesthood so at some level this passage applies to all of us.

Humility is the tone of these verses. This is seen clearly in verse 5 as Peter urges believers to respond humbly to each other. But it is also seen in the tone of the letter. By cultural standards, Peter could have started this part of the message “I, Peter, apostle of Jesus Christ command you...” but he doesn’t. He writes this part with the exact humility he is expecting of those he shepherds to demonstrate. Humility is an attitude or quality of mind whereby a person holds low esteem or opinion of his own goodness and importance. Spiritually, one lowers himself because he realizes his sinfulness and therefore is willing to depend fully on God. It is the opposite of pride. In order to achieve this humbleness, we are called to acknowledge our sinfulness and then cast our anxieties to God, as written in verse 7. God doesn’t want us to handle our anxieties; He wants to free us from them so that we can live fully for Him.

**Discussion:** (Use these questions as guidelines for discussion with your family. Share your experiences as they relate to the question and then ask the question to the rest of the family.)

1. What does it mean to be humble? Define this together and then give examples of actions of humility.
2. Look up what the Bible says about pride. Some verses to look at are: Hosea 13:4-6, Jeremiah 13:9-10, Daniel 4:30-32
3. Share the difference of pride and humility. Share how pride leads to a life of heavy weight while humility leads to a life of light burden.
4. What are you anxious about? Share with your families and then pray, turning over these burdens to Christ.

**Bottom Line: God wants us to lead with humility and grace as we shepherd people into a relationship with the Chief Shepherd, Jesus Christ.**

### SING

“Audience of One” (<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DVka7lxxt5s>)

Humility starts with submitting ourselves to God. This song reminds us how important that is. When we submit to God, and seek humility to cast our cares on him and to free us to live for His kingdom in this world.

## SUGGESTIONS

These suggestions were created for specific age ranges as a way to help parents better communicate the biblical truths discussed in the Family Worship Guide. These suggestions are intended to help parents facilitate God-centered discussions with their children. Parents should prayerfully use these suggestions, and any other means necessary, to help their children discover the truths of God's word and worship Him together.

### Preschool (up to 5)

- Humility, like many other character traits, is taught more by our actions than our words. Reflect on your own character. How do you show your family humility? Are you quick to demand service or be a servant? As parents, commit yourselves to humility. Come before God and confess your sinfulness and need for Him; then live for Him as a servant. Intentionally plan acts of humility to demonstrate daily this week. (Fulfill a chore normally done by your child, serve your spouse, work as a family to help out a neighbor)
- Read 1 Peter 5:5-7. Give examples of how to act humbly with our family, friends, etc.

### Children (K-5<sup>th</sup>)

- Open your Bible and read 1 Peter 5:5-7. The verses say to "Humble Yourself." Review the definition you made together of humility in the family discussion.
- If you have internet access; go to [www.jellytelly.com/video/humility](http://www.jellytelly.com/video/humility) to watch a short clip on humility from Focus on the Family. If not, come up with situations that demonstrate selfishness or humility and help your kids pick out the humble actions.
- Be "secret humble servants." Help your kids brainstorm ways that they can serve others without them knowing. Talk about the temptation to be praised for the good deeds we do. Doing things humbly means not expecting recognition. Have each child think of ways that they can serve another in secret this week. (Picking up a siblings toys for them, picking up trash on a walk, etc.)

### Students (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)

- Have your kids open their Bibles with you to Luke 18:9-14.
- Review the definition of "humility" you created together. Before you read the passage, ask them to come up with a list of traits of a proud person vs. a humble.
- Read the parable; see if there is more to add to the list.
- Referring back to the parable, how did the humble man act? What was the attitude of the tax collector and the attitude of the Pharisee? Humility begins with the recognition of our sinfulness and need to fully depend on God.
- Now look into your lives. What are situations where you are tempted to be prideful instead of humble? How can we turn to God in these situations, humbling ourselves and depending fully on Him?

## PRAY

Take an opportunity for each family member to share prayer needs. Pray for each one of these requests specifically. Have each family member pray for increased humility.