

WEEK TWO: CALLED TO BE HUMBLE



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WATCH

Use these notes to follow along as you <u>watch the video</u>. Be sure and write your own thoughts down as you discover what it means to humbly embrace your call as a leader.

All leaders are fighting a battle against pride. In order to be an effective leader, you must go to war with the pride inside yourself.

People follow humility-people rebel against pride.

Followers internally ask these three questions of their leaders:

- Can I trust you?
- Do you care about me?
- Can you help me?

By becoming the greatest servant, Jesus became the greatest leader. If your leadership is for you, it will eventually hurt other people.

Go back to move forward—an identity in Christ is found when you die to yourself. The old you, the one filled with pride, must surrender.

God is in the business of redeeming things. It isn't uncommon for our strongest gifts to grow out of our deepest pain. The power of the cross is far greater than the power of your past.

Humility is a posture, a practice, and a presence.

Humble and hungry leaders are disciples first and leaders second.

READ

Take the spiritual gifts assessment, identify your top three, and read the descriptions of your top three attached.

PRAY

Practice humility in prayer; pray these things throughout the week. Take time each day to communicate with God your total dependence on Him.

- Thank God for the top three gifts He has given you. Ask Him to reveal a deeper understanding of them and how you are currently using them.
- Praise God for your weaknesses. Give some specifics, and remember what Paul writes in 2 Corinthians, "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. 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." (2 Corinthians 12:9-10, ESV)
- Spend some time thanking God for someone who has gifts that you don't have. Ask Him to bring people into your life who have talents and perspective to complement your own.
- Pray for humility. Pray to God to help you give Him any and all glory. Ask Him for more self-awareness—that you would be reminded just how much you need Him.

DISCUSS

Think on these questions throughout your week. Write a short response to each, and come ready to discuss them with your group.

- 1. What key things stood out to you from the material this week?
- 2. Can you look back and see times when you misused your gifts? In what ways do you ensure your motives in using your gifts are to glorify God and advance His mission verses your own?
- 3. What do you think of when you hear the word calling? Has it been a vague idea in your life or do you see it clearly?
- 4. In his book, *Gaining by Losing*, pastor and author J.D. Greear writes, "Whatever you're good at, do it well for the glory of God. And do it somewhere strategic for the mission of God." In what ways are you using what you're good at to contribute to God's kingdom?
- 5. What did you learn about yourself from the spiritual gifts assessment? How can this new awareness contribute to your growth, both professionally and personally?
- 6. How does your current position fit your giftedness? How do you handle when your position doesn't align with your gifts?
- 7. Based on your assessment, what is one way this week you can intentionally grow in one of your top three gifts?

8. You have gifts. People in your life have needs. Can you identify where your gifts match up with the needs of others you are already in relationship with? What are you going to do about it?

9. What kind of leader do you want to be? Think about your legacy and the eternal impact your influence could have. How would you want someone to describe the way you lead?

9. How will you embrace the call to be humble? What new habits will you form? What new disciplines will you start?

ACTION

What's the one thing you're going to do different in light of what God showed you this week?

RESOURCES

We want to point you in the direction of some essential books written on this topic, for further growth and development.

- Humility by Andrew Murray
- Lead...for God's Sake! by Todd G. Gongwer