

LESSON 17
"HUMILITY"
(page 1)



BIBLE CONNECTION

Luke 18:9-14 (page 1135)

CHARACTER WORD

Humility - Opposite of prideful, arrogant, and conceited

TEACHING OBJECTIVE

I can pray to God with humility.

MEMORY LINK

Luke 18:14b

"...everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

(KBC Study Bible, page 1135)

SUPPLIES NEEDED THIS WEEK

GET CONNECTED

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens, highlighters

MEMORY LINK ACTIVITY

Option 1: Card stock

Option 2: Posterboard

BIBLE CONNECTION

No supplies needed

SURF TEAM TIME

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens, highlighters

MAKE-IT-STICK REVIEW GAME

Option 1: Music, paper, bucket

Option 2: Paper, bucket

Two Men Pray

WHAT'S THE POINT?

Jesus taught us the difference between praying with pride and praying with humility. The Pharisee in today's story bragged about his good deeds as he prayed while the tax collector, instead, recognized who he was... a sinner. The tax collector approached God with humility. God was pleased with the humility shown by him. 1 Peter 5:6 says, "Therefore humble yourselves before the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time."

James 4:10 says, "Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up." We must approach God with humility. We are made right, not because of our good deeds, but righteousness is put to our account because of what Jesus did for us on the cross. If we keep in mind His character and what He has done for us, we can learn to pray with humility.

GET CONNECTED

Building relationships in surf teams; introducing today's lesson



Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, index cards, pens, highlighters

Use the following conversation prompts to get to know the students in your surf team and to introduce today's lesson.

Activity option: Write one letter on an index card: H-U-M-I-L-I-T-Y

- Pass out the index cards to students in your surf team. (Some may need to share a card.) Ask them to unscramble the letters to discover the character word. (HUMILITY)
- Today's character word is humility. Let's use the letters from the word to discuss what humility means. Allow the students to say a word or phrase that describes humility that starts with the letter they are holding. (Example: H-hard to do/be)
- Today's story is about two men who prayed. One man was boastful in his prayer while the other prayed with humility. Which prayer do you think pleased God?



Guide students to locate and mark today's Bible Connection and Memory Link in their Bibles, if they brought one, so they can find the pages quickly as directed in the session.

WORSHIP TIME

Pointing students' hearts toward God



Before worship time starts, ask the Surf Team Leaders to say characteristics or attributes of God aloud (See insert between pp. 434-435 in the KBC Study Bible.) When we focus on how great God is and what He has done for us, it allows us to think of Him with the proper perspective. When we think of Him with the proper perspective, we are able to worship Him properly. This helps us to come to Him and worship with humility.

Consider these song choices: "Pray About Everything", by Group (Lifetree Kids); "Fruit of the Spirit", by Go Fish Guys; "Greatest Commandment" (Mark 12:30-31), by Seeds Family Worship

MEMORY LINK

2 Minutes – Teaching the Bible verse to students

8 Minutes – Activity to help them memorize the verse



LESSON 17 “HUMILITY”

(page 2)

No supplies needed

Focus on the Bible

Ask students to hold their Bibles high in the air. Count the number of Bibles in the room. Encourage those who did not bring a Bible to Beach Club today to bring it next week. Ask those who brought their Bible to share with someone near them who does not have a Bible today.

Today's Memory Link is found in the book of Luke which is the third book in the New Testament and is one of the gospels. We know that Luke was a doctor and so as we read this book, we find that he writes in great detail. He gives us lots of information. Would you open your Bibles to Luke 18:14b on page 1135? Remember that the “b” means that we are going to read and learn the last part of this verse. Ask a volunteer to stand up and read the verse aloud as the others follow along.

Focus on today's Memory Link

Today's character word is humility, which is the opposite of prideful, arrogant and conceited, thinking you are better than others. Exalt means to hold in very high regard. Let's look at what our verse says. “Everyone who exalts himself” - should we do that, exalt ourselves? Remember it means to boast or brag, tell others how good we are. No! We are to be humble before God and let Him be the One who makes us worthy instead of us trying to appear worthy or exalting ourselves.

Ask everyone to stand to say the verse together. For the words “exalts” and “exalted” invite them to gesture as if they are grand and worthy of praise. When they say the words “humbled” or “humbles” they will bend down in a lowly position of prayer. Guide them to repeat the verse a few times, moving as indicated.

Option 1 - PASS THE HUMILITY

Large card with “Humility” written on it for each surf team

Ask students to line up in a single file line facing the Surf Team Leader. Give the “humility” card to the first person in line. Ask them to pass the “humility” card by twisting their waist from side to side – opposite of the person next to them. (One student will turn to the right to pass to the next student who has turned to the left to receive it.) Once the “humility” card is passed to the end of the line – ask the students to recite the Memory Link. Repeat passing back and forth. You can change the way the card is passed and continue playing as time allows.

Option 2 - RED LIGHT, GREEN LIGHT

Posterboard

Prepare: Write the first half of the Memory Link (“Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled.”) on one side of the poster board and the second half of the Memory Link (“and he who humbles himself will be exalted.” Luke 18:14b) on the other side. During the game, hold the poster board high in the air with the first half of the verse facing behind you.

Ask students to line up across the back of the room. When you are facing away from the students (green light) they will walk toward you while saying the first half of the verse. When you turn around (red light) students will freeze in place and say the second part of the verse. Repeat as time allows.

Luke 18:14b

“...everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

(KBC Study Bible, page 1135)

Teaching Tip

It is helpful to remember not all students are as well-versed in Scripture as others. Some Bible verses or passages may be difficult for some to understand. When preparing to teach, remember to define words that might be unfamiliar to students.

BIBLE CONNECTION

Teaching today's character word through gospel-centered Bible story



LESSON 17 "HUMILITY"

(page 3)

No supplies needed

Set the Stage

Prayer is talking to God. In today's Bible story, Jesus was teaching the crowd the way to pray. He taught them the difference between pride and humility. Jesus told this story about two men who prayed. One man boasted and bragged in his prayer. One man showed humility in his prayer.

Tell the Story

Guide students to open their KBC Study Bibles to Luke 18:9-14 on page 1135. Invite the students to follow along as you read the story directly from the Bible while pausing frequently to discuss each verse as you read it.

A parable is a story that teaches a spiritual truth. Luke tells us about this parable that Jesus told to people who thought they were made right with God by their actions or the things they did and looked down on others according to their actions. You've learned in Beach Club that doing right things isn't what makes a person right with God. What does? (Only by trusting in Jesus.)

The Bible says that a Pharisee and a tax collector went to the temple to pray. A Pharisee was a man who followed the religious laws. A tax collector was a person who was usually not very well liked in the community because he took extra money from people. What other tax collectors do you remember from other Beach Club lessons? (Zacchaeus, Matthew)

The Pharisee stood and prayed about himself. He thanked God that he was not like other men who were not "right" before God. He told God the things he did that made him better than the others. He fasted twice a week and gave tithes or a part of his money to the church.

The Pharisee praised himself rather than God. He thought that because he followed God's laws that he was right and just. He basically bragged about himself in his prayer to God. Does doing good stuff make you right with God? No! All people are born in sin and we all need someone to save us. Only Jesus can make people right with God. Like you did during the Memory Link time, show me what it looks like to brag or exalt yourself. Model arms stretched out, chest out and chin up.

When the tax collector prayed, he stood far off with his eyes lowered and told God that he was just a sinner. He asked for mercy. He showed humility. The tax collector understood that he was a sinner. Who is a sinner? Everyone! The tax collector did not stand and tell God of his good deeds. Instead, he took a posture of humility. He realized he was separated from God because of sin and needed God's mercy. Show me what it looks like to humble yourself. Model lowering your eyes and sitting low in a chair or lowering your shoulders.

Jesus said the tax collector was the one who was made just. If we exalt ourselves, we will be humbled. If we humble ourselves, we will be exalted.

Teaching Tip

It's natural for students' eyes to wander around behind you as you teach. You can take advantage of this teaching opportunity by posting signs that have the teaching objective, Memory Link, ABC's of salvation, or other key phrases from the Bible Connection on the wall behind you.

Teaching Tip

As you teach, refer back to a phrase in the worship song you sang or a conversation you heard in one of the Get Connected times. Help students to make connections to the teaching objective as often as you can. You could even ask a question from the Get Connected time to allow them to share what they discussed with the whole group.

Guide students to find “Digging In” at the bottom of page 1135. Read the paragraph aloud as they follow along. *You don't need to pretend in front of God. God knows your heart. He knows you are a sinner and He still loves you. There is nothing you can do to earn a relationship with God. You can't be good enough. You can't give enough money. You can't help others enough. Therefore, you should not brag about your good deeds to God. Instead, you must understand that you are a sinner in need of God's mercy. You must approach God with humility.*

Application

Our Memory Link says...“for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled” – if we focus on our own good works, we will be made low. “But if we humble ourselves we will be exalted” – if we come before God like the tax collector and realize we need God, He will lift us up because of what Jesus did when we accept Him as Lord.

Gospel Connection 

God does not leave you in your sin with no hope. Because God loves you, He provided Jesus as the way for you to be made right with Him. Jesus lived out the ultimate example of humility. When you ADMIT that you are a sinner and ask for forgiveness for your sins, BELIEVE that Jesus is God's Son and that He died on the cross for your sins, you are made right through Him, and then you CHOOSE to make Jesus your Forever Friend for the rest of your life!

Close in prayer.

Invite students wanting to know more about praying to ask Jesus to be their Forever Friend to move to the designated counseling area to meet with a leader one on one. Be sure to have all the decision supplies available.

Gospel Tip

Today's lesson on humility helps us remember that there is nothing we can do to earn our salvation. Salvation from sin is a free gift that was paid for by Jesus' sacrifice on the cross. We are sinners in need of the amazing mercy that the tax collector understood. We must boast only in the cross of Jesus, not in our good deeds. As we approach God in prayer, we are told to approach God with humility as we remember His love and mercy toward us.

SURF TEAM TIME

Connecting with students in small groups; applying today's Bible Connection and Character Word



LESSON 17 “HUMILITY”

(page 5)

Memory Link cards, Hang 10 pages, Index cards, pens, highlighters

Today's Bible Lesson

- Before you begin, ask if there are any students who would like to talk with the Bible Connection Leader about praying to ask Jesus to become their Forever Friend. If so, let them go to the designated area.
- *What questions do you have about today's story?*
- *What was the point of the parable Jesus told in today's Bible Connection?*
- *What is an example of a prayer that would be pleasing to God?*

Use the Bible

Give each student a Memory Link card. Review today's Memory Link and Character Word. Guide them to use cards to mark today's story in their KBC Study Bibles and highlight today's Memory Link if they have not already done so.

Hang 10 Pages

Give each student a Hang 10 Page. Challenge them to hang out with God 10 minutes each day by praying and reading the Bible, using the Hang 10 page as a guide. Encourage them to bring back their Hang 10 pages next week.

Your Hang 10 this week will instruct you to practice prayer this week. Let's take a look at our Weekly Challenge. Take time to review the Weekly Challenge with your students.

Pray

Tell the students to follow the example of the tax collector as they pray today by praying with humility.

God, we humble ourselves before You to tell You that we need You. Thank You for sending Jesus to pay the price for our sins. Thank You for Your love. In Jesus' name, amen.

Teaching Tip

Remember that some students will be unaware of practices you may take for granted, such as how we pray in groups. Remind students the reason why we practice prayer. When we bow our heads, we do so out of respect for God. When we close our eyes, we do so in order to be focused on God and not the less important things around us. Listen carefully to the person who is praying and think about God.

MAKE IT STICK - REVIEW GAME

Playing a game to review today's Bible Connection and Character Word



LESSON 17 "HUMILITY" (page 6)

Option 1 - FREEZE

Music, slips of paper, bucket per surf team

Prepare: Ask each student to write his or her name on a slip of paper and place them in the bucket. (You can choose to use the surf team names if you want them to answer the question as a group.)

Ask the review question, then play music as you allow the students to quietly mill around the room. Students "freeze" when you pause the music. After you pause the music, pull a student name or surf team name from the bucket and allow them to answer the question. If they cannot answer the question, pull another name.

Option 2 - STRIKE A POSE

2 strips of paper, bucket per surf team

Prepare: Write the word "prideful" on one strip of paper and the word "humble" on the second strip of paper. Place the strips of paper in a bucket.

On go, ask the students to strike either a prideful pose (stand up, chest out, chin raised) or a humble pose (kneel, head and eyes lowered). Pull a strip of paper from the bucket. If you pull the word "prideful," the students who made that pose get to answer the question. If you pull the word, "humble," the students who made that pose get to answer the question. Play until all questions have been answered or until time is called.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. *In what book of the Bible is today's story found? (Luke)*
2. *Who were the two men in the story? (Pharisee and tax collector)*
3. *What is today's character word? (humility)*
4. *Which man prayed with humility? (tax collector)*
5. *Who did the Pharisee talk about in his prayer? (himself)*
6. *What kind of prayer pleases God? (a humble prayer)*
7. *What did Jesus say would happen if we exalt ourselves? (we would be humbled)*
8. *What did Jesus say would happen if we humble ourselves? (we would be exalted)*
9. *In what book of the Bible is today's Memory Link found? (Luke)*
10. *How did Jesus humble Himself? (He left heaven, became human, and died on the cross.)*

Teaching Tip

There may be games that were favorites of your students this year. If so, use them in these last weeks of Beach Club to reinforce the learning. You may wish to call on volunteers to help you teach the game. Students will stay engaged and excited to participate in some old favorites!



“...everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

Luke 18:14b

KBC Study Bible, page 1135