

MARCH 2026

HUMILITY

**putting others first
by giving up what you
want**

You may have heard Jesus' life and teaching described as "The Upside-Down Kingdom." Though Jesus is King of the universe, He entered our world as a humble carpenter. Instead of demanding that others serve Him, Jesus healed, listened to, and cared for the people deemed most unimportant. Rather than living in a palace and depending on horses and chariots, Jesus walked long, dusty miles on His own tired feet. By our world's standards, that's completely upside down! This month, we want kids to discover how the Bible defines success...through humility and service. John the Baptist pointed people to Jesus, rather than himself. The Roman commander had a powerful position, but he bowed to the authority of God. And Jesus taught us and showed us by example how to be humble.

WEEK 1: John the Baptist is a witness about Jesus
(*John 3:22-36*)
Jesus must increase. I must decrease.

WEEK 2: A Roman commander has faith
(*Matthew 8:5-13*)
Remember God is most important.

WEEK 3: Be humble. Love your enemies.
(*Matthew 5:38-48*)
Love like Jesus even when it's hard.

WEEK 4: Mary and Martha
(*Luke 10:38-42*)
Make time for Jesus first.

WEEK 5: Palm Sunday/Jesus washes His disciples' feet
(*John 12:9-16; 13:1-17*)
Jesus showed us how to be humble.

MEMORY VERSE:

"Don't do anything only to get ahead. Don't do it because you are proud. Instead, be humble. Value others more than yourselves."

Philippians 2:3, NIV

ENGAGE IN EVERYDAY MOMENTS TOGETHER



MORNING TIME

As your kid starts her day, tell her about a time you saw her put someone else first. Tell her that when she does that, she is acting like Jesus.



MEAL TIME

At a meal this month, read Philippians 2:3 aloud. Then, have everyone at the table answer this question: "What does it mean to value others more than yourselves?"



DRIVE TIME

While on the go, ask your kid, "Who is someone you know who puts others first? What do they do?"



BED TIME

Pray for each other: "Heavenly Father, Help us to follow Jesus' example. Help us not to think less of ourselves in the wrong way...because You think we are so valuable. Instead, help us to think of ourselves less and think of You and others more! In Jesus' name we pray. Amen."

PARENT TIP:

In March, we're exploring the humility of Jesus and how He wants to grow that same humility in us.

As beautiful and mesmerizing as Christ's humility is, this virtue can be painful as God works it out in our own lives. There is so much pride hiding in plain sight in each of us. We see it in our kids, and we see it in ourselves.

Whenever the sin of pride rears its ugly head in my life, it feels so yucky. That's why at the beginning of 2026, I really wanted to focus on eliminating the pride in my heart and cultivating humility instead. Then, I listened to an old sermon by Pastor Tim Keller. He said it's impossible to work on humility because as soon as you start working on it, you aren't being humble! Oh boy. My spiritual growth plan was crumbling before my eyes. What was I to do? How is a person to become humble? Keller's solution was to think deeply about Jesus. Dwell on His sacrifice and His love and His glory. When your mind is focused on Someone so much greater, you think less of yourself. And THAT's how humility grows in your life.

So, if you want to grow humility in yourself, and encourage humility in your child, focus on Jesus. Read wonderful things about who He is and what He has done. Memorize Scripture that keeps your mind on Him. Listen to worship music that praises Him. Talk to Him all day long, thanking Him for His goodness and asking Him what He would have you do each day. (I bet He'll ask you to be His hands and feet in this world and serve others...which is another great way to focus less on yourself!) As C.S. Lewis wrote, "True humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less."