

## The Lack of Humility

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by Wayne Goff

The lack of humility has probably always plagued the church but it seems to be rearing its ugly head even more these days. Perhaps that is because Americans are raising more narcissists; those who think the world centers around them! Parents, giving your children **everything** they ask for and **want** is not a good program of child-rearing. Giving children discipline, teaching them limits and self-control, and often saying “no” to their childish wants and wishes may take more work, but it’s your duty as parents to do that for them!

Adult Christians — **STOP!** — and look at yourselves for a moment. Are you developing and practicing the traits of **self-centeredness?!** None of us wants to admit that we might be **too selfish**, but in America it is becoming an epidemic! **The top of the heap** is displayed in Hollywood every year during the ceremonies for the Emmys, Grammys and Oscars! The arrogant, pompous and shameless display of bodies and egos becomes nauseous to one trying to follow Jesus Christ. So much “I, Me, My, and Mine” shows a real problem with self. The **best** people in the world are those who **sacrifice** themselves for the benefit of others — godly parents who put themselves behind the raising of their children, godly men and women who sacrifice their own interests for the interests of others, etc. It turns out that these people are also the happiest, which probably seems ironic to the happy-seeking narcissist!

**Christian men**, when you lead a prayer, lead a song, teach a Bible class, or preach a sermon — remember *always* that you are offering a sacrifice of worship and praise which **centers on God** — not on **YOU!** Thank God for those in our congregation who *lose themselves* in their selfless service to God! (**Beware!** If you think you are one of the humble ones, then guess again!)

Every one of us needs to habitually read and consider Matthew 16:24-26. Jesus said to His disciples, “*If anyone desires to come after Me, **let him deny himself...***” (v. 24). “*Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? — unless indeed you are disqualified*” (2 Cor. 13:5). Selfish pride can sneak up on any of us!

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