



FEED YOUR HUMILITY

In Jim Collins' book, *Good to Great*, he defines the unique quality of all leaders in good to great companies as being rallied by common passion for the well being of organizational development, not just personal perks.

Jeremiah, a prophet in the Old Testament, made the same discovery: "Are you seeking great things for yourself? Don't do it!" Jeremiah 45:5

There are two kinds of pride:

- 1) Good Pride: Dignity, Respect, Honor
- 2) Bad Pride: Conceit, Arrogance, Independence

When you look at the word *pride*, notice the middle letter is "i". When you are full of pride on the inside, it makes you stiff, stubborn, and creates strife with others.

"One is too small of a number to achieve greatness."

How Can I Feed My Humility?

• I Must Reduce My Intake of Self-Absorbed Attitudes

Pride is easy to see in others and difficult to see in me.

—*Pride enlarges my perception of my own importance*

—*Pride stunts my growth*

"Do you see a man who is wise in his own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for him."

Proverbs 26:12 NKJV

"The most important thing in life is not to capitalize on our gains. Any fool can do that. The really important thing is to profit from our losses. That requires intelligence; and makes the difference between a man of sense and a fool." —William Bolitho

"People who accept correction are on the pathway to life, but those who ignore it will lead others away."

Proverbs 10:17 NLT

—*Pride makes others sick*

"Pride leads to arguments, those who take advice are wise." Proverbs 13:10

"Do you know where fights and arguments come from? They come from your selfish desires that war within you. You want things, but you don't have them. So you are ready to kill and are jealous of other people, but you cannot get what you want. So you argue and fight. You do not get what you want because you do not ask God." James 4:1-2 NCV

—*Pride increases my stress and anxiety*

"Blessed are the flexible for they rarely get bent out of shape."

• I Must Increase My Exercise of Humility-Producing Activities

"True greatness is always clothed in humility."

What is humility? It is grateful acceptance of my own distinctiveness without comparing myself to the distinctiveness of others and living to affirm God's purpose for my life.

Step-by-step process for feeding humility:

1. **Retire your old T-shirt.**
Move from an attitude of "I rule" to "I serve"
2. **Stretch your service beyond what is expected or requested.**
Go the extra mile!
3. **Find a way to say "thank you" every day.**
Gratitude is one of the most effective humility-building exercises in the world.
4. **Determine that being right does not equal being uptight.**
Just because everyone doesn't see it your way, it does not mean you have to defeat or destroy them.
5. **Admit your mistakes.**
"God is against the proud, but gives grace to the humble. . . Don't be proud in the Lord's presence and He will make you great."

James 4:6, 10 NCV