

How to weaken pride and cultivate humility

A list of suggestions by CJ Mahaney from his book Humility

Always

1. Reflect on the wonder of the cross of Christ

As each day begins

2. Begin your day by acknowledging your dependence upon God and your need for God.
3. Begin your day expressing gratefulness to God.
4. Practice the spiritual disciplines – prayer, study of God's word, worship. Do this consistently each day and at the day's outset if possible.
5. Seize your commute time to memorise and meditate on scripture.
6. Cast your cares upon Him, for He cares for you.

As each day ends

7. At the end of the day, transfer the glory to God.
8. Before going to sleep, receive this gift of sleep from God and acknowledge His purpose for sleep.

For special focus

9. Study the attributes of God.
10. Study the doctrines of grace.
11. Study the doctrine of sin.
12. Play golf as much as possible.
13. Laugh often, and laugh often at yourself.

Throughout your days and weeks.

14. Identify evidences of grace in others.
15. Encourage and serve others each and every day.
16. Invite and pursue correction.
17. Respond humbly to trials.



Cell Notes >3/5. Uzziah – humility

Welcome (10)

Your cell is a **mission team** based in your hall.
And now with new **word** and **witness** leaders!

Share together...

WHAT IS GOD DOING IN YOUR LIFE?

What's good? What's a struggle?

Explain that you'll study God's word together, pray and seek to encourage and equip one another to live and speak for Jesus. **This term we're studying the magnificent letter 2 Chronicles in cell from week 2-6, and then Esther in weeks 7-9. In 2 Chronicles we're called by God to a life of humble orthodoxy, in Esther to prize God's promises whatever our circumstances.**

Word (40)

2 Chronicles 26
Theme – **Uzziah – Humility**
Transformational-Faith-Aim:
To Cultivate Humility.



v1-5

- How is Uzziah described?
- What did he do?
- What were the results of this?

V6-15

- What did Uzziah achieve?
- What fields of study and work was he involved in?
- What were the benefits of this?
- What happened to him? How are these things connected?

V16-23

- When did his worst day happen? (16)
- What was his error? (16)
- Why was this so wrong? (18)
- How does he respond to the rebuke? (19)
- How might we make the same kind of mistakes in our “strength”? - what might we become proud in?

Living for Jesus
Speaking for Jesus

- How should Uzziah have responded at each stage
- How can we learn from this for our lives?
- How is Jesus different from Uzziah? (*Priest-King, Humility etc*)
- How does reflecting on Jesus' humble death help us to cultivate humility?
- What other practical steps can we take to weaken pride and cultivate humility?

Next Week

Hezekiah – If you take on God, you lose.

2 Chronicles

Worship (10)

Survey the wondrous cross... pour contempt on all pride.

Witness (30)

Christian Union is a Mission Team – you're part of that. Share stories of attempting to witness to friends. Where do you need help? Who can you pray for? ** What will it look like to live humbly among others?

Word Notes

Jehoshaphat failed in weakness by forming alliances with those who hated the word of God. Uzziah fails in his worship because of his strength. Uzziah was an impressive man. God loves creation and Uzziah immersed himself in all sort of projects – military, architecture and agriculture, armies, engineering and innovation. In his strength he became proud and took upon himself tasks that belonged to priests. He was the King not the Priest. He failed to let the body be a body. He was given an opportunity to repent through the Priest's rebuke, and yet he responded in proud anger. Self-defence of sin is pride's way. He didn't worship by the book. He didn't practice humble orthodoxy.

“At every stage of our Christian development and in every sphere of our Christian discipleship, pride is the greatest enemy and humility our greatest friend” John Stott

“There is only one thing I know of that crushes me to the ground and humiliates me to the dust, and that is to look at the Son of God, and especially contemplate the cross” Martyn Lloyd Jones.

Jesus, by contrast, brings true worship as the humble priest-king and through Jesus grace comes to those who humble themselves and trust in the cross. The cross is the death of human pride – we cannot boast in anything as we kneel at the foot of the cross.