
First Baptist Dyersburg • Sermon Notes

Dependent On and Submissive To God

Message #4 in the series

IN HIS OWN WORDS

Sunday, February 22, 2026 • Mike Hickman, Senior Pastor

God blesses those who are humble, for they will inherit the whole earth. (Matthew 5:5, NLT)

“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth. (Matthew 5:5, ESV)

Webster's Dictionary defines meek as “enduring injury with patience and without resentment.” A meek person is someone who is not occupied with self at all, someone who does not insist on a set of rights. (Jen Wilkin, *Sermon on the Mount*, page 26.)

To be a person who is humble or meek goes against our culture in America today. Our culture applauds individuals who:

- **Show strength**
- **Seek power**
- **Boast of their abilities**
- **Are self-assured and aggressive**
- **Aim for conquest**
- **Seek material possessions**
- **Demand their own rights**

But as Christ-followers, we have _____ rights of our own. In fact, we are required to _____ our own will so that we can _____ God's will for our lives – just like Jesus did when He was here on earth.

¹⁹Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself, ²⁰for God bought you with a high price. So you must honor God with your body. (1 Corinthians 6:19-20, NLT)

Jesus is using the Sermon on the Mount to help set the tone for how He expects His people to live and act. In these opening statements, He is reminding His disciples that:

- 1. We lack the _____ resources to improve our own spiritual condition because we are _____ people. We are totally dependent on God for our salvation and for the forgiveness of our sins.**
- 2. As we acknowledge and confess our sin to God – and are exposed to His holiness and righteousness – we should be overwhelmed with _____ because of our sinful choices.**
- 3. The result of this grief will lead us to develop an attitude of _____ or _____ as we come to recognize that we are nothing apart from God.**
- 4. Because our very breath comes from Him, we willingly _____ our lives and our plans to Him, trusting Him to lead us down the right path, working all things for our _____ and for His _____.**

God wants to do the impossible through your life. All He requires is your obedience. (Henry Blackaby, *Experiencing God Day by Day*, May 16.)

Out of all the Bible, Jesus is our premier example of how to live a life of meekness and humility.

⁷ He was oppressed and treated harshly,
yet he never said a word.
He was led like a lamb to the slaughter.
And as a sheep is silent before the shearers,
he did not open his mouth.

⁸ Unjustly condemned,
he was led away.
No one cared that he died without descendants,
that his life was cut short in midstream.
But he was struck down
for the rebellion of my people.

⁹ He had done no wrong
and had never deceived anyone.
But he was buried like a criminal;
he was put in a rich man's grave.

¹⁰ But it was the LORD's good plan to crush him
and cause him grief.
Yet when his life is made an offering for sin,
he will have many descendants.
He will enjoy a long life,
and the LORD's good plan will prosper in his hands.

¹¹ When he sees all that is accomplished by his anguish,
he will be satisfied.
And because of his experience,
my righteous servant will make it possible
for many to be counted righteous,
for he will bear all their sins.

¹² I will give him the honors of a victorious soldier,
because he exposed himself to death.
He was counted among the rebels.
He bore the sins of many and interceded for rebels. (Isaiah
53:7-12, NLT)

Is there any encouragement from belonging to Christ? Any comfort from his love? Any fellowship together in the Spirit? Are your hearts tender and compassionate? ² Then make me truly happy by agreeing wholeheartedly with each other, loving one another, and working together with one mind and purpose.

³ Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. ⁴ Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

⁵ You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.

⁶ Though he was God,
he did not think of equality with God
as something to cling to.

⁷ Instead, he gave up his divine privileges;
he took the humble position of a slave

and was born as a human being.
When he appeared in human form,
⁸ he humbled himself in obedience to God
and died a criminal's death on a cross.

⁹ Therefore, God elevated him to the place of highest honor
and gave him the name above all other names,
¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
¹¹ and every tongue declare that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:1-11, NLT)

The reward for humility and meekness will be for Jesus' disciples to inherit the earth. It is a _____ fulfillment which will come during His millennial reign on this earth, and then for all eternity in the new heavens on the new earth.

How does this apply to our life today?

Each moment of fear, each act of refusal, was an act of spiritual irrationality. Each fearful person had been invited to be part of the massive history and globe-spanning work of the kingdom of God. The One who called them created the world and holds it together by His will. He has power over all things spiritual and physical. He rules every situation, location, and relationship in which His call is to be followed. He is amazing in His wisdom, abundant in His grace, and boundless in His love. He is saving, forgiving, transforming, and delivering. What He says is always best and what He requires is always good. When He calls, He goes with you. What He calls you to do, He empowers by His grace. When He guides, He protects. He stands with power and faithfulness behind every one of His promises. He has never failed to deliver anything that He has promised. There is simply no risk in answering the call of the King of kings. (Paul David Tripp – *New Morning Mercies*, April 18.)