

# *Becoming*

## *Becoming Humble (February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2020)*

### PREPARATION

- Familiarize yourself with this Study Guide.
- If you missed it, watch the sermon online [HERE](#).
- Spend some time in prayer before your group gathers.
- As a leader you **always** have the option to use some or all the questions and/or prepare your own questions.
- Review the learning objective to focus the conversation, read the primary scriptures as a group, summarize the main points, ask the questions, and use supporting texts to enhance the concepts.

### DISCUSSION

#### **Opening Prayer:** (1-5 minutes)

*In light of what God is saying through this week's message, here's some suggestions of how your group can invite God into your time together.*

Thank Jesus for coming to this world and showing us the way in which we were called to live a life of humility and gentleness! Pray that the Holy Spirit would reveal to us how we can continue to submit to and depend on His word. Finally, thank Jesus for humbly and gently going to the cross so that we may have eternal life with the Father!

#### **Discussion:** (30 minutes)

##### What's Going on This Week

This Sunday, Pastor Larry led us into the second week of our Community Group series titled *Becoming*. Pastor Larry encouraged us to become more like Jesus by growing in gentleness and humility. He begins this journey by highlighting our common misconceptions about these two words as weak and loathing. However, Pastor Larry emphasizes the submission that Jesus exhibited to control his strength and the complete selflessness and dependency on the Father that was required for Jesus to fully love and serve others around Him ultimately leading to the cross.

**“Appetite says be sensuous, enjoy yourself. Education says be resourceful, expand yourself. Materialism says be satisfied, please yourself. Psychology says be confident, fulfill yourself. Pride says be superior, promote yourself. Humanism says be capable, believe in yourself. God says be wise, humble yourself.” – Pastor Larry Vold**

## Suggested Questions

**Check-In:** *John 14:1-6* – Last week, our discussion revolved around all of the misaligned actions that we want to change in our lives and how our misguided beliefs about Jesus cause us to stray away from his path. What did you notice this week about your beliefs and actions as you attempted to align your life with Jesus?

**Study Tip:** Matthew 11:28-30 comes at a very challenging moment for the disciples. Jesus has just commissioned his disciples to perform miracles, to suffer rejection and hostility amidst leaders who were already growing increasingly violent towards the movement, and to never refuse Jesus in full hope of his provision (Matt. 10). Next, John the Baptist, a pillar of the Jesus movement, expresses that he has doubts about Jesus (Matt. 11:1-19). Finally, cities in which miraculous signs had been performed by Jesus had still not repented (Matt. 11:20-24). Was it even possible to replicate Jesus' ministry? If John doubted and these cities did not repent, how could anyone expect to fulfill Jesus' requirements? As you study the guide, recognize that Jesus is calling us to unite with and learn from him under his easy yoke so that in the face of our impossible call to fulfill God's standard, you can find rest for your soul!

- **Objective #1: Explore experiences and misconceptions involving gentleness and humbleness**

*Primary Texts: Matthew 11:28-30* – Pastor Larry begins his sermon by diving into a word study that that portrays biblical gentleness as the outpouring of humility. Instead of thinking of meekness as weakness and a lowly heart as loathing, Pastor Larry speaks of gentleness as “strength under control” and humility as complete and selfless dependency on Jesus. What has been your experience in grasping the true meaning of gentleness and humility and demonstrating these traits in your life as a believer?

*Supporting Texts:* (Becoming Like Jesus) Romans 8:28-29; 1 John 2:5-6

- **Objective #2: Survey scriptural examples of God's gentle and humble character.**

*Primary Texts: Philippians 2:1-11* – Next, Pastor Larry challenges us to reflect on Jesus' life to see how God was able to demonstrate submissive gentleness and dependent humility. Which biblical stories stand out to you that involve God displaying His gentleness and humility and why? How does a correct understanding of humility and gentleness influence your pursuit of becoming more like Jesus?

*Supporting Texts:* (Gentle) [Is. 42:1-4 / Matt. 12:14-21]; 1 Kgs. 19:1-18; [Zech. 9:9 / Matt. 21:1-11] (Humble) 1 Sam. 2:1-10; Prov. 3:34; 1 Pet. 5:5-6; James 4:6-7.

- **Objective #3: Commit to a next step towards gentleness and humility through following Jesus.**

*Primary Texts: Colossians 3:12-17; 2 Timothy 2:22-26; Galatians 5:16-6:1* – Finally, Pastor Larry offers four “how to's” if we are going to become more like Jesus in the areas of gentleness and humility. **1) A relationship with God 2) Trust in the process 3) Learning from Jesus Himself 4) Practice within the church.** Which of these four areas require more attention in your life and how would you like your group to help you grow in that specific area?

## **Closing Prayer: (5-15 minutes)**

*In light of what God is saying through this week's message, here's some suggestions of what your group could talk about with God in prayer.*

Thank Jesus for being the way, the truth, and the life! Ask that the Holy Spirit would reveal to us the depth of what it means to live gentle and humble lives under your easy yoke! Finally, pray that the Holy Spirit would continue to transform our minds so that we would begin to recognize the faulty beliefs and worldviews that drive our progress toward becoming more like Jesus!

## **THROUGHOUT THE WEEK**

**-Follow Along with our Pray Podcast:** For the next 30 days, our challenge for you is to step into the prayer movement around 3Crosses by listening to our [Pray Podcast](#).

**-Further Reading and Exploration!** *Read John 14-17:* The upper room discourse is loaded with many great final sayings and teachings from Jesus. As you read these passages, try and keep track of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit's relationship with one another and how God affects our lives. In addition, try and identify what Jesus ultimately wants for your life!

**- Find out how to pray for two people in your group this week!** Pray that they would remain close to Jesus this week as they look to love others in gentleness and humility!

**- Join us for our Community Group Meet-Up on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020!** If you have any questions about Community Groups, feel free to email AJ at [avanegas@3crosses.org](mailto:avanegas@3crosses.org)