

SESSION 4: LOVE & MODESTY

Welcome & Review Last Week's Homework/LIFE Starters: 15 minutes

Session #4 Teaching: Love & Modesty: 10 minutes

The theme through this study is from **1 John 4:8**, "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love," and in **Romans 5:5**, where the Bible tells us that, "the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us." Expressing the power and influence of the love of God is central to leadership and every Christian leader should be driven by the love of God in everything they do. In this light, other people will recognize the heart and motives of this type of leader as true, Godly and modest. On the other hand, **Proverbs 16:5** says the proud of heart are "an abomination" to God. Being arrogant does not help model or demonstrate Christ's interests. Rather, it is in direct conflict with Christian leadership. **Proverbs 16:18-19** reminded us that...Pride goes before destruction, And a haughty spirit before a fall. Better to be of a humble spirit with the lowly, Than to divide the spoil with the proud.

Showing God's love in your leadership style takes modesty, which is the offspring of humility. Humility is evaluating ourselves properly, with sober judgment as explained in **Romans 12:3**, "For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you." Modesty is behavior that flows out of remembering our true place of service, and does not conceitedly boast about the self, but boasts in God (**Philippians 2:3-4; 2 Corinthians 10:17**). Modesty, or the lack thereof, reveals where we've placed our identity. Most leaders have a tendency to declare their high status, their value, their identity with worldly luxury, to make sure that everyone knows they're in charge!

Do YOU boast in yourself? Is your identity wrapped up in your position as a leader?

Sadly, we live in an identity-addicted society. We strive to put our worldly idols on display so that everyone knows who we are. We're told to accentuate our best features, get what we want out of life, stand up for and express ourselves. Social media is often the megaphone we use to herald our personal identity and covertly brag about our smarts, politics, sports, relationships, family, insecurities, experiences, and possessions.

On the other hand, representing Jesus, as a servant leader, means we live humble and modest lives. We're supposed to proclaim what is proper, just like the Psalmist declared in **Psalms 115:1**, "Not to us, Lord, not to us, but to your name be the glory, because of your love and faithfulness." Our true glory is only uncovered as we shout with joy about God, so good leaders need to have modesty in abundance. A modest leader should accept criticism and understand their limits. As a servant leader, it is important to motivate, step back and not to be a 'know-it-all', but listen to and trust others. This is precisely the definition of modesty, which is characterized by Jesus.

Today's teaching is so critical to the rest of the study, as each session creates the foundational thinking for future sessions. As you accept the areas in your life where you need to make some adjustments (even radical changes), you will be living a new life of love, modesty and true integrity, where you will be a much more effective leader.

If you are bold enough to change, God will bless your efforts throughout this study!

Small Group Discussion: 20 minutes

- What does modesty mean for you?
- Have you been led by a leader who focuses on modesty? How did that make you feel?
- How do you display modesty as a leader?
- How well do you receive criticism?
- How do think those you lead identify you? What words would they use? Discuss.
- Give some examples of people that model modesty in your sphere of influence and how they affect you.

Small Group Wrap-Up: 10 minutes

- What were the biggest take-aways and action items from your small group time?

Discuss This Week's Homework: 5 minutes

SESSION #4

WK. 4 DEVO 1

Read Proverbs 16

Journal about being humble and NOT arrogant to model or demonstrate Christ's interests

L=Listen in your journal by writing the date and the Scripture you're studying. After you've read the passage a few times, focus on a verse or two that stands out to you and then write out those verses in your journal.

I = Investigate the context around today's Scripture reading. To whom was this written? Why? How does this passage fit with what comes before and after it? What is the Holy Spirit communicating through this text? Feel free to use Bible study tools for commentary: [Bible Study Tools](#), or [Easy English Bible](#).

F=Focus to the text to make it applicable for your own life. What is God saying to you personally through this passage? How can you apply what you've read?

E = Engage God. This can either be a short prayer or an action that you can take that day after reading the text. Is there a command to follow in the text? How are you different because of what you've learned?

SESSION #4

WK. 4 DEVO 2

Read Romans 12

Journal about showing humble love and modesty.

L=Listen in your journal by writing the date and the Scripture you're studying. After you've read the passage a few times, focus on a verse or two that stands out to you and then write out those verses in your journal.

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SESSION #4

WK. 4 DEVO 3

Read Acts 2:14-40

Review verse 38 and journal about what it means to you.

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F=Focus to the text to make it applicable for your own life. What is God saying to you personally through this passage? How can you apply what you've read?

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SESSION #4

WK. 4 DEVO 4

Read Psalm 115

Reflect on representing Jesus, as a servant leader, living humble and modest lives.

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I = Investigate the context around today's Scripture reading. To whom was this written? Why? How does this passage fit with what comes before and after it? What is the Holy Spirit communicating through this text? Feel free to use Bible study tools for commentary: [Bible Study Tools](#), or [Easy English Bible](#).

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