

HUMILITY

A few days later, a well-known politician invited the teacher and other distinguished guests to his home for dinner. The homeowner's servant had prepared a large table of veal, roasted corn, raisins, bread, and wine.

As they removed the hot bread from the hearth, many of the guests argued about who would sit in the prestigious position next to the guest of honor. Most everyone wanted to be seated at the head table and to be recognized as a person of importance and high status.

The teacher took His seat and said it did not matter where each person sat. He said they should be willing to sit at the foot of the table, and that it was up to the host to ask the guest to move to a more important position.

The teacher invited everyone to sit down as He spoke on the subject of humility . . .

THE TEN TESTAMENTS

For everyone who exalts himself
will be humbled,
and he who humbles
himself will be exalted.
Luke 14:11



TESTAMENT III

I WILL BE HUMBLE

I was born into this world as a weak and fragile infant. From the moment of conception, I depended on someone else to provide me with the necessities of life. Later, I matured and became eager to face the world as an independent person thinking I no longer needed help. However, I quickly discovered I could not succeed alone and realized I needed to humbly ask others for help and guidance.

Humility allows me to better handle life's challenges and to more effectively serve others.

I will be humble.

Life is filled with obstacles and adversity. Problems, difficulties, and setbacks often frustrate my efforts. My reaction toward these frustrations will determine how successful I become. The person with very little or no faith will respond with remarks such as "I can't," "That's too difficult," or "That can't be done." However, the humble person who has faith will respond with remarks such as, "If I can't do it alone, I will find someone to help. I have a much greater chance to succeed if someone helps me." If I try to overcome the challenges of life alone, I will often struggle or be defeated. However, with the help of a neighbor, I will experience the love and power that two or more people create when we work together toward a common goal. Therefore, I will set my ego aside and ask my neighbor for help.

The purpose of trials and humiliation is to remind me that I am a weak and vulnerable child of God. Since my life is really in God's hands, I need His help and guidance. God provides answers to those who seek Him. I need only to consult Him on a regular basis. The truly humble will seek God.

To be humble means to tolerate adversity with patience. I will overcome the troubles of life with the help of God and

THE TEN TESTAMENTS

Do nothing out of selfish ambition
or vain conceit, but in humility
consider others better than yourselves.
Philippians 2:3



HUMILITY

my neighbor. My persistent effort and patience will enable me to find the opportunity that sleeps in every adversity. My character, forged by repeated encounters with adversity, grows stronger and soon becomes capable of accomplishing great things in life.

I will be humble.

Serving my neighbor is one of the greatest acts of humility. Selfish attitudes and behavior can be harmful to my character. I will consider my neighbor's needs before my own. I will be courteous and respectful as I listen to my neighbor's desires and opinions. I am happier when I serve my neighbor with acts of kindness rather than when I seek my own pleasure.

If I find it difficult to keep a humble attitude, I will make it a practice to visit those who are sick or dying. I will not complain or whine when I know there are others who face greater adversity with such dignity.

I will not hesitate to go out of my way or sacrifice my time in order to help a neighbor. To voluntarily suffer for one who is in need of help is one of the greatest acts of unselfish love—whether my neighbor is a friend or stranger.

I will be humble.

I am humble when I practice forgiveness. If I offend my neighbor in any way, I will ask for forgiveness. The act of asking for forgiveness can be one of the most difficult things to do, but those who love their neighbors will humbly ask for it. Since love is a motivating factor in most of my intentions and actions, I am not content until I make peace with my neighbor.

I will be humble in all areas of my life.

- When I tend to boast, I will give credit to others.
- When I receive a compliment, I will say “thank you.”
- When I enjoy abundance, I will share it with others.

THE TEN TESTAMENTS

Do not be proud,
but be willing to associate
with people of low position.
Romans 12:16

Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
Matthew 5:3



HUMILITY

- When I experience good health, I will help those who are ill.
- When I want to complain or whine, I will help those who are at a disadvantage.
- When I suffer financial hardship, I will increase my service to others.

A humble attitude helps keep me happy with a simple life. It eliminates any desire to concentrate on issues seasoned with vanity, greed, or pride. Humility prevents me from becoming overconfident, careless, or materialistic. With the proper attitude, I'm better equipped to serve my neighbor with love and respect.

A humble child of God realizes that the road of life is bumpy with many obstacles along the way. I need the help of God and neighbor in order to be successful.

The only time I will not face hardships and sorrow is when I pass from this life into eternal life. Therefore, I will make it a practice to humbly kneel before God and ask for patience to bear this life and prepare for the Day of Judgment in hope of attaining eternal life.