

BATTLE PRIMER



A Guide to Humility

By Paul Klassen, Broken Strength Executive Director

God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble

-James 4:6 and 1 Peter 5:5

What would God be looking for when He chooses somebody to build an ark that would save mankind? How about the person who would begin an ethnic race that would, well, save mankind? And again, what would He be looking for when choosing a woman who would give birth to His only begotten Son who actually DID save mankind? Whether it's Noah, Abraham, or Mary, God must have seen humility. He must have seen something in these people that prompted Him to say, "They have an attitude about them that I

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Resource of the Month

can use in a supernatural way and they won't think too highly of themselves because of it." Do we long to be that kind of person?

The passages mentioned above call us to be active in our pursuit of humility, to "humble yourselves" and to "clothe yourselves with

humility." The ultimate example that we are called to follow is Jesus, who "emptied himself" when he came to earth (see Philippians 2:4-7). Christ's attitude was a habitual direction determined by His mind of humility and self-denial for the sake of

others. This is not a self-pity or negative speak that draws attention to our lowly state. It is, rather, a growing concern for others and love for God through actions that create habits in our lives which are not at all self-serving.

The beauty of this approach is that God promises to reward such a habitual lifestyle with honor and reward it in His timing and in His way (John 12:26; James 4:10; 1 Peter 5:6). Look at the examples already named, especially Mary! God saw a humility in her that He blessed greatly, even when you consider the heartache she experienced as her firstborn suffered on the day He was crucified. You and I know many examples of this humility that the world will never know: people who have been faithful in the midst of the harshness of this life, people who will stand before God and hear the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant." May you and I move toward this habitual humility for God's greater reward at His perfect time. So, then, active humility in our contexts, in this area of sexual integrity, must consider how we can look out for the interest of others (Phil. 2:4). How can we deny Satan's idea of sex and embrace God's idea of sex (see James 4:7 and 1 Peter 5:9). This Christmas season, let's grow in our habitual humility by drawing near to God by cleansing our hands, purifying our hearts, and mourning over our sin. Be willing to rely on each other for accountability rather than pridefully battling alone. The promise from God? "Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you." (1 Peter 5:8-10)

**53% of boys and
39% of girls
believe that
pornography is
a realistic
depiction
of sex.**

We invite you . . .

- *Do you know a church or individual who would like to be informed or added to our prayer team? Send an email to pklassen@apathtopurity.org*
- *Would you like to help us continue to offer our services for free so as to help more churches broach the topic of pornography and sexual integrity? It is our goal not only to increase the conversation but to provide a solid means of hope, freedom, and victory. You may donate to the ministry at www.apathtopurity.org*

This month's updates

Thank God with us for . . .

- Providing funding for another year of ministry. A growing amount of monthly givers as well as many one-time donations display God's faithfulness and the commitment people have to sharing the burden.
- The year 2023! About 900 people attended our events and speaking engagements and well over 200 experienced follow-up and further help with their own sexual integrity journeys.
- Opportunity to team with 2 sex-trafficking awareness events in order to bring people practical tools and opportunities with which to battle pornography in their contexts.
- God's mercies that are new every morning - GREAT IS HIS FAITHFULNESS!

Pray to the Lord with us for . . .

- Guidance, protection, and courage for the 11 Scheduled Events:
 - December 8, 2023 | Alatheia Church, College Park, MD (Joe)
 - December 9, 2023 | Restoration Church, Washington DC (Joe)
 - January 13, 2024 | Alexandria Covenant Church, Alexandria, MN (Paul)
 - January 20, 2024 | Milaca E Free Church, Milaca, MN (Paul)
 - February 2, 2024 | Red Mountain Comm. Church, Mesa, AZ (Paul)
 - February 2, 2024 | Chicago lake Baptist, Chisago Lake, MN (Joe)
 - February 3, 2024 | Family Bible Church, Chandler, AZ (Paul)
 - February 16, 2024 | River of Life, Hastings, MN (Paul)
 - March 26, 2024 | River City Church, Minneapolis, MN (Joe)
 - April 13, 2024 | Grace Church, Memphis, TN (Joe)
 - April 27, 2024 | Buffalo Evangelical Free Church, Buffalo, MN (Paul)
- Ongoing, healthy, ally relationships among the men who are currently doing the 3-week follow-up and who continue in their partnerships with others for ongoing healing.
- The many churches still seeking not only to schedule an event but who truly want to deepen the conversations and experience healthy relationships.
- The shooting, editing, and distribution of a two (2) videos. One video will communicate what an event looks like and another will tell part of Paul and Becky's story of betrayal, recovery, and current ministry.
- Practical application of, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."