

Equipping the Saints

Taking Time to Change by Jim Berg – pages 46-47

I. Dependent by Design

- A. God made _____ dependent. Adam was not made autonomous.
- B. Any attempt to make man a creature who can live _____ from God is doomed to failure. Man can no more joyfully and peacefully live independently from God than he can fly by flapping his hands.
- C. Any change that will ultimately help a man must move him away from _____ (self-sufficiency) and must move him toward dependence upon his Creator.
- D. _____ inherently demands dependency. (Illustration: A Boy and a Bike)
- E. The account of _____ powerfully illustrates the destructive nature of man's natural bent toward self-sufficiency.

II. Humility – the _____ of the Dependent Creature

- A. Andrew Murray said, "Humility is simply [man's] acknowledging the truth of his position as man and _____ to God His place."¹
- B. We can begin to change by becoming more accustomed to looking beyond our own behavior and emotions and asking ourselves, "What is the _____ in my heart right now that is driving this behavior or emotion?"

III. Live the Christian Life the Same Way You Got it

- A. Humility is not only the _____ of the Christian life; it is the start of everything _____ in the Christian life.
- B. Being "_____ with humility" is a concept that most of us very likely have never considered.
- C. Our aversion to the whole idea of humility is testimony of the _____ of our understanding of God's ways.

IV. How Does God Humble Us?

- A. He can send us a _____ we can't handle to expose our _____.
- B. He can give us a _____ we won't obey to expose our _____.
- C. He can arrange an _____ we can't control to expose our _____.
- D. He can show a _____ we can't comprehend to expose our _____.

Conclusion:

A man's potential for God lies not in his _____, nor in his _____, but in his _____ before God.

¹ Andrew Murray, *Humility* (Springdale, Pa.: Whitaker House, 1982), 12.