



The Cost and the Cause

Acts 20:17-27

Growth Group Discussion Questions for November 5, 2017

Getting Started:

- 1) If you were updating your resume today, what recent accomplishment would you want to include?

- 2) The word humility occurs about 270 times in Scripture. It is a central teaching in Scripture because it is part of who God is. In the sermon, Jesse uses many terms to describe humility. How would you describe humility?

- 3) Genesis 3 relates the story of how sin entered the human race. The serpent planted distrust of God's goodness in Adam and Eve's heart. Suddenly they were unsure that God had their best interest at heart. Pride says, "I can do a better job of running my life than you. I don't trust you. I don't need you." Our focus switches from God to self.
 - The focus of humility is building up, honoring and serving *others* instead of *me*. How do you feel when someone is better than you at something you do well?

 - Why do we tend to base our worth as Christians on our performance?

Going Deeper:

- 4) **READ:** Philippians 3:3-14 and Ephesians 1:3-14. Jot down any insights, questions, or key observations.
 - Living in a humble posture is not about overestimating *or* underestimating our value and worth. It's about living according to how Jesus values us and reveals our real (and accurate) worth in our God-given identity and

purpose. Paul came to understand this truth. How does he describe his self-made identity before he knew Jesus? (Phil. 3:3-14)

- How does Paul describe the identity and value of believers in Christ? (Eph. 1:3-14)

- Paul lived out what Jesus called him to be and do. He was true to his call. To live out of our God-given identity and worth, we have to let go of the false identity that we have so carefully created, nurtured and then hide behind—just like Adam and Eve hid behind fig leaves. (Genesis 3) How would you describe the self-made identity that you tend to hide behind?

Bringing it Home:

5) **READ:** Galatians 5:22-26. Humility **costs** us our pride. The **cause** is to become like Jesus who embodies humility. It is more about who we are than what we do.

- What do you need to start counting as rubbish for the sake of Christ?

- What practical steps can you take this week to demonstrate humility in your relationships?