

sermon notes

Pastor Tony Caffey, VBVF | Fearing Deity & Defying Stupidity
March 10, 2024 | “The Humble do not Stumble” | **Proverbs 13:1–25**

- 1) Humility _____ the tongue (13:1–6)

- 2) Humility _____ sober-mindedness (13:7–10)

- 3) Humility _____ patience (13:11–19)

- 4) Humility _____ others (13:20–25)

Questions for further application of God’s Word:

GO DEEPER

Read Proverbs 13:1–25. How is the broad theme of humility/teachability present in this passage? What other repeated words, themes, and ideas are found in Proverbs 13?

Is humility a learned trait or is it bestowed on us by God as a gift? Can we grow in humility? If so, how? What role does the Holy Spirit play in our pursuit of humility?

How does recognition of God’s glory and sovereignty help us with pride? Do we need a smaller view of ourselves or a bigger view of God (or both)? If we need a bigger view of God, how do we go about obtaining that?

GET PERSONAL

Why does Solomon say that “Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm” (13:20)? Who are the wise people that you consistently “walk” with? Should we avoid interacting with foolish people altogether? What about foolish family members? What about foolish unbelievers? Was Jesus wrong to spend time with sinners and tax collectors?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

What are some pride issues that you struggle with in your life? How do you fight it? In C.S. Lewis’s *The Screwtape Letters*, one devil tells another devil to tempt a Christian by saying, “I see your patient has become humble; have you drawn his attention to the fact? ... Catch him at the moment when he is really poor in spirit and smuggle into his mind the gratifying reflection, ‘By jove! I’m being humble!’”

Is there a danger in being too focused on our display of humility? Aren’t we the most humble when we don’t think about it or aren’t striving to show it off to people? You can listen to chapter 15 of *The Screwtape Letters* here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k8ePNp21ZmQ>

ADVANCED QUESTION

Humility is an admirable trait for a person. But what about God? Is the God of the Scriptures a humble God? Is humility one of his divine attributes?

Access the following podcast by John Piper on this issue:

<https://www.desiringgod.org/interviews/is-god-humble>