

6-WEEK PURSUIT  
DEVOTIONALS  
WEEK 2 - HUMBLENESS

**MONDAY - "WHAT IS A MENTOR?"**

According to the dictionary it is a relationship between two people where the individual with more experience and knowledge is able to pass along what they have learned.

I have had such a person in my life for many years. I first met Marlene in the early 70's, when we moved to Hawaii. It was there I came into Pentecost. This was a whole new experience for me spiritually and culturally.

Pastor Bloom knew that I would need a strong, steadfast, believer to guide and anchor me in this marvelous new walk with God and she chose Marlene to, more or less, take me under her wing.

Marlene was truly an example of a godly believer and in all the years that I have known Marlene her walk with God never faltered. She never put on air of "I am a better Christian and know more than you so you have to listen to what I say." She had a way of sharing God's Word in such a simple way. When she was through with her explanation, she would just wait patiently and let it sink into this stubborn heard. I don't know if she saw a light bulb go off in my head, (more likely the Holy Spirit) because she would say "yes, yes, yes, she's getting it." She was never judgmental or put off by my questions, doubts, or fears.

Marlene was as single mom with a young daughter when I first met her. Marlene never remarried and made the decision to dedicate her life to Christ. She instilled all of these godly principles in her daughter, but like many children, her daughter walked away from God, got pregnant, married a man, (who turned out to be a serial rapist), and Marlene's daughter became his cover for being a normal God-fearing man. Still, Marlene never lost faith during those difficult, heartbreaking years. She continued to stand on God's Word that her daughter would come back to God. She stood on His Word: "Train a child in the way they shall go and when they are old, they will not depart from it." Her example gave me the strength to stand on God's Word for my wayward boys until they came back to Him. She showed me how important it is to stand no matter what. She not only spoke His Word, she put into practice what she believed; that is a godly mentor. A true God-fearing mentor affects your for the rest of your life.

Through these many years she is still an important influence in my life, in my family, and I in hers. We may be separated by miles, even when she went to Israel to work with her aunt in spreading the Gospel to the Arabs, our bond was never broken. In fact, it has only gotten stronger. This reminds me of that song: "Friends are friends forever, when the Lord is the Lord of them."

In closing, I need to say one more thing about a mentor and that is this: "It isn't just a one-sided relationship where you glean all the benefits." Throughout these many years, we both have been blessed. And it goes beyond that, because if we don't share the principles that we have gleaned from the mentors in our lives, we miss a tremendous blessing.

Marlene's example of being a godly mentor has been instrumental to me in learning how to listen, exhort, and pray with those in need. I am so reminded of Timothy, who had probably the best mentor in his life: Paul.

In 1 Timothy 5, Paul gives the best illustration of a mentor and how to treat people, mainly believers. Read the whole chapter, but the two things that stood out to me are: to have respect for one another, and second to exhort and not to rebuke. Exhorting brings encouragement, where rebuking someone brings resentment. Let us each be that kind of mentor that helps encourage one another to finish the race and not to give up.

From Anne Lawver

**REFLECTION:**

As Jesus followers we are called to display Jesus to everyone around us. We are all commanded, by Jesus, to make disciples, that is: be mentors. Who can you mentor? Who are you showing Jesus? How could you show Jesus more clearly?

**PRAYER:**

Jesus, thank you for believers like Marlene. We are thankful for examples of faith and we pray you would bless them immensely. Help us be like those who came before us that we may show you, Jesus, clearly to the world around us.

**TUESDAY – “MOSES TO JOSHUA”**

For many years when I would look at myself I would see myself as humble. Boy was I wrong. The longer I live the more I see my personal struggle with pride. Humbleness does not come naturally but is something we grow in. It always helps to have some people in your life that live humble.

I can't think of very many in my lifetime who were very humble except a pastor I knew as a young man. He pastored at a nearby church but even though he was a pastor he showed me at church camp that he was willing to be a servant. Servanthood helps us learn to be humble. Even though the Pastor was the camp nurse I sometimes caught him cleaning the bathrooms or helping in the kitchen. He showed the willingness that God loves to be a servant. My dad taught us early that if we wanted to be used of God we started by just being willing to do whatever needed done at the church. That means I started out cleaning toilets.

God wants us to stay in the place where we don't deserve anything from the Lord but are willing to do whatever He wants us to do. How about you? Don't draw lines but be willing to do anything for Jesus.

Mark 10:43-45 says: "But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave to all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

Pastor Vern Weaver

**PRAYER:**

Let's conclude with a time of prayer. You can structure this time however you feel led. Pray...

- Pray that you would see yourself as God sees you.
- Pray for humility
- Pray to show others what it means to be a servant of God.

**WEDNESDAY – “GOOD ENOUGH”**

**BIBLE STUDY:**

Read Colossians 3:1-17 before reading our Devotional.

**DEVOTIONAL:**

Dear Church Family,

Are you a procrastinator? Have you ever gotten a thrill out of doing something at the very last moment? No? Well, if not, then you are a fortunate person. I am, regrettably, a procrastinator to the core. If you are a fellow procrastinator, then you have my condolences and sympathy.

In college, I had consistently gotten away with putting off homework, essays, and study until the very last minute. What further enforced this rather nasty habit, was that I still got mostly A's, and a couple of B's. That is, until one fateful class where I bombed my final essay and performed rather poorly on my final exam. In that class, I got a C. Now, I know, for some of you that is enough. But for me, I was ashamed. Not because of the C, so much as that I knew I could have done better if I only tried.

That day, I was humbled as I realized that simply coasting by was not enough. There are consequences to both our action, and lack of action. There are so many times we know we could make changes, alter habits, and adjust our behaviors, but simply shrug because, well, what we are doing now is good enough.

Good enough? That was the exact same attitude an arrogant college student named Ty Weaver once had. And one day, he paid the price for shrugging.

Humbleness is a trait we are all familiar with but most of us do not understand. We equate being humble to being quiet, reserved, and perhaps even being a pushover. But, while some of these traits can manifest from being humble, they are not the same as being a humble person. A humble person knows precisely who they are and what they are capable of.

If I were to take this one step further: I would say a humble person knows who God is, and therefore is aware of who they really are. Because we know God's kindness, we see our own cruelty. Because we know God's grace, we see our own tendencies to judge and discriminate. Jesus is the light, and the closer we draw to the light, the longer and more evident our shadows become. This can be scary, but in our weakness He is strong.

You see, humbleness is all about relying on who God is. My prayer is that as you humbly seek God that you will be healed and made whole as Jesus is whole. In Christ, we are more than just “good enough”, we are whole. So in everything we do, do it in Jesus' name; giving Him thanks and praising His name.

Sincerely,  
Ty Weaver

**CHALLENGE:**

Today, every-time you walk into another room, or move to another space: ask yourself this question: “What can I do for Jesus here?”

Your answer could be to pray for someone, or do something kind. If you do not have an immediate answer, take a moment to thank God for what He has given you.

What we are practicing is that humble attitude of doing everything to God’s glory; even walking into the bathroom.

**PRAYER:**

Let’s conclude with a time of prayer. You can structure this time however you feel lead. Listed below are some topics that could help guide this time of prayer.

- Pray for God to show you His goodness today.
- Pray for a humble heart that is open to whatever God wants.
- Pray for God to move in your life because He is good.

## **THURSDAY – “HUMBLE BRAG”**

### **BIBLE STUDY:**

Read Genesis 37:1- 10, Genesis 37:18-36. You may also read Genesis Chapters 39 – 46 to get the whole story.

### **DEVOTIONAL:**

Growing up, I was very competitive. Let’s be honest – I am STILL very competitive. My little brother would use that to his advantage as often as possible. He would bet me that he was better at tag, or fastest to clean their room, best at school, most friends, etc. So you could bet that if he told me I would be submitting to him at some point, I would laugh in his face!

This is exactly what Joseph did. I bet he didn’t think about the consequences right away, but the second time he told his dream to the family, I think he had a little bit of satisfaction knowing he was going to be something greater than his older brothers. Even his dad scolded him! Unlike Joseph’s brothers, I didn’t feel like killing my brother, but selling him did sound tempting.

As Joseph continued through his trials of slavery, false accusations, and jail time, he learned a lot about being humble. God was with Joseph through it all, so he continued to excel in everything he did: slavery, personal assisting, jail time, and dream interpretation. Joseph went from a bragging little brother to a ruler of Egypt!

Did you notice that Joseph had to have everything stripped away from him to learn humbleness? He lost his family, his independence, his freedom, and his reputation. Yes, he was better for it, but what a loss!

What about you? Are you in danger of losing things just to learn humbleness? It wasn’t until Joseph stopped focusing on himself and started focusing on God that he began to succeed in his endeavors. We need to be focused on Jesus. We need to stop “bragging” and start doing. God gave Joseph those dreams for a reason, just like He gave you those talents and gifts. Let’s give glory where glory is due – to God!

Becky Weaver

### **CHALLENGE:**

Reflect on your day. Were you braggy? What do you think the people you bragged to felt? How can you turn that brag into an action that points to God?

### **PRAYER:**

This week, pray about your gifts and talents the Lord has given you. Ask Him how you can use them. If you are struggling to discover your gifts and talents, ask God to reveal them to you.

**FRIDAY – “HUMBLE PIE”**

**BIBLE STUDY:**

Read Colossians 3:12

**Devotional:**

If you have ever had a chance to be around a child, sooner or later, they are going to do something naughty. It's inevitable. Raising two boys, it became very clear to me that it was to be true.

Did you color on the wall? “No,” he replied while holding the crayon in his hand. It seemed to me he was clearing lying. So I asked him who did color on the wall? “I don't know...”

How many times has the Holy Spirit spoken to you about something and you responded in a way that might not be truth? God wants us to humble ourselves before Him with honesty, truth, and have a repentive heart.

Pastor Anita Weaver

**PRAYER:**

Let's conclude with a time of prayer. You can structure this time however you feel led. Pray....

- Pray you will always speak truth.
- Ask God to bring you to your knees in humbleness.
- Ask for forgiveness for your pride that steps in.

## **SATURDAY – “AN INTRODUCTION TO DAVID AND SOLOMON”**

From David and Solomon’s lineage came Jesus. Both men were people of significance yet have very different stories. Tomorrow, on Sunday, we will be discussing how the lives of this father and son demonstrate the need to entrust our battles to God. But before we hear from the Sunday Sermon, let’s take a moment to setup some background to these heroes of our faith.

### **DAVID:**

Below is a list of questions followed by Bible Verses. Read the verses and then answer the questions to learn more about David and his life.

*Question #1:* Where did David come from? Read *1 Samuel 16:1-13*

*Question #2:* What sort of person was David? Read *Acts 13:22-23*

### **SOLOMON:**

Below is a continued list of questions followed by Bible Verses. Read the verses and then answer the questions to now learn about Solomon.

*Question #1:* What did Solomon’s father teach him? Read *1 Kings 2:1-4*

*Question #2:* What did Solomon realize at a young age? Read *1 Kings 3:3-9*

**FINAL QUESTION:** When it comes to fighting battles, what can we learn from Solomon’s example?