We are members of the Oak Ridge church of Christ. We call ourselves Christians ([**Acts 11:26**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Acts%2011:26)) and we hold to the Bible as our one and only Truth. Church of Christ is a biblical description of Christians who work together for the cause of Christ ([**Ro. 16:16**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Romans%2016:16)). We are independent assemblies with no organization beyond our own number as described in [**Phil. 1:1**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Philippians%201:1). There are Christians across the world working with local congregations of God’s people such as described in [**Rev. 2**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Revelation%202)**-3**. Christians are members of Christ’s body, which is also known as His Church ([**Acts 2:47**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Acts%202:47)**,**[**Eph. 5:23**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Ephesians%205:23)). Our mission is to stand for God’s truth (the gospel) and teach it to all people ([**Matt. 28:18-20**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Matthew%2028:18-20)**,**[**Romans 1:16**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Romans%201:16)**,**[**1 Tim. 3:15**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=1%20Timothy%203:15)). We are accountable to our one and only Head Jesus Christ ([**Eph. 1:22-23**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Ephesians%201:22-23)**,**[**Col. 1:18**](http://oakridgechurch.lakesonline.com/passage.asp?v=Colossians%201:18)).

**Humility; Humbling Ourselves to God!**

Humility in the New Testament is related to three Greek words:

• G5011 (*tapeinos*) not rising far from the ground metaph. as a condition, lowly, of low degree brought low with grief, depressed lowly in spirit, humble in a bad sense, deporting one's self abjectly, deferring servilely to others;

• G5012 (*tapeinophrosyne*) the having a humble opinion of one’s self, a deep sense of one’s (moral) littleness, modesty, humility, lowliness of mind;

• G5013 (*tapeinoo*) to make low, bring low, to level, reduce to a plain, to bring into a humble condition, reduce to meaner circumstances, to assign a lower rank or place to, to abase, to be ranked below others who are honoured or rewarded, to humble or abase myself by humble living, to lower, depress, of one’s soul bring down one’s pride, to have a modest opinion of one’s self, to behave in an unassuming manner, devoid of haughtiness

***\*The opposite of being haughty; Webster’s defines haughty as being as blatantly and disdainfully proud. Other words for haughty could be arrogant, conceited, self-important, snooty, stuck-up, puffed-up, overconfident, superior, condescending.***

Some passages that incorporate the humility Christians are to have.

**Matthew 18:1-4**

**Luke 14:11, 18:13-14**

**Romans 12:16**

**Ephesians 4:1-3**

**Colossians 2:18-19, 3:12-14**

**James 4:6-7**

**1 Peter 5:5-7**

You in our audience may be struggling with humility if:

• You rarely or never apologize or admit you are wrong

• When you make a mistake, you look for someone else to blame [find a scapegoat (**Leviticus 16:8, 10, 26**)]

• When you are sincerely rebuked, you look for faults in the rebuker

• You spend little time actually examining yourself in the mirror

• You spend too much time focusing on accomplishments without giving God the glory

• You think about yourself before you think of others

• Instead of first admitting your mistake, wrong, or sin, you find yourself making excuses for your behavior

• You have trouble thanking others or praising others for their efforts in the Lord

• You have heard the truth, you know the Lord wants you repent and be baptized, but you refuse to submit to Him and become a child of God because of your pride!

Let us:

• Be quick to admit our faults and to repent

• Be thankful when rebuked

• Be humble and gentle when rebuking

• Look at our own faults first (i.e., the planks) so we can see clearly the faults (the specks) of others (**Matt. 7:1-5**)

• Not blame others for our mistakes and sins

• Remember we are sometimes simply wrong

• Realize at best we are unprofitable servants (**Luke 17:10**)

• Be clothed with humility in our lives (**1 Peter 5:5**)

• Realize how we deal with our mistakes, sins, faults, and wrongs influences others

• If we are not Christians, let us realize the only hope we have is to humble our lives to Jesus.

Pride and arrogance are tools of Satan to get us off track of the humility the Lord wants us to live by. Let us remember what the Lord taught when He washed the feet of His disciples (**John 13:1-17**). Jesus says, “But he who is greatest among you shall be your servant.” (**Matthew 23:11**).

We all need to be aware of the dangers of losing our humility. Moses was the most humble man to walk this earth, yet in one moment of not hallowing and honoring God in humility he was not permitted to enter the promised land (**Numbers 12:3, 20:12**).

Humility is where our life for God truly begins and lives! God commands His people to be full of humility. When His children have that humble spirit, He will lift His children up (**James 4:10**).

Jesus lived humbly to God’s will (**Matthew 11:28-30**)

Jesus humbled Himself to God’s will (**Philippians 2:5-11**)

True obedience to the Father starts with complete submission and humility, just like we see in Jesus. Yes we have our bad moments, days when we need to repent, times when we get off track, or occasions when we give into Satan’s temptations. However if the desire of our heart is to truly please God, humbling ourselves to Him can help us get better each day! By doing so, we will have much joy in this life and eternal life in the world to come!

If you are not a Christian tonight, you need to believe Jesus, be willing to confess He is the Son of God, turn away from your sins, and humble yourself to God by being immersed in the waters of baptism to wash away your sins. Pride has kept many from humbling themselves to God. But the proud will not be lifted up in this life or to Heaven one day.

We invite all in our audience to our Bible studies on Wednesday at 7pm and Sunday morning at 9am. We would love to study God’s together with you! Please check the scriptures we have covered tonight. We want to help you in any way we can. Contact us for Bible studies by telephone, e-mail, or simply come to one of our assemblies. Contact: We assemble at 225 North Purdue Ave. in Oak Ridge at 9am on Sundays and 7pm on Wednesdays; oakridgechurch.com; david.barry@oakridgechurch.com, murray.wade@oakridgechurch.com; (865) 693-1416

Our next live program is planned for December 4, 2023 when we plan to study “**It is a Great Time to be a Christian!**” and we hope to see you next time on **"Speaking The Truth In Love".**