

TALK IT OVER

Key Scriptures

"The greatest among you will be your servant. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." (Matthew 23:11-12, NIV)

"You save the humble but bring low those whose eyes are haughty." (Psalm 18:27, NIV)

"this is what the Sovereign LORD says: Take off the turban, remove the crown. It will not be as it was: The lowly will be exalted and the exalted will be brought low." (Ezekiel 21:26, NIV)

"When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: "When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this person your seat.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous." (Luke 14:7-14, NIV)

Read – Luke 7:36-50

Start talking. Find a conversation starter.

- When have you used the phrase, "In my opinion?" What was your motivation? When have you had the phrase or something like it said to you? How did you feel?

Start thinking. Ask a question to get thinking.

- The religious leaders in Jesus' day placed a heavy burden on people to follow their rules and to honor them. From the passages on the left, discuss how Jesus turned that upside down?
- Discuss what you think the difference is with exalting or humbling yourself.
- Who might be the poor, crippled, lame, and blind in your life? How could you honor them?

Start sharing. Choose a question to create openness.

- How do you think you need to grow in humility and raising others up? What step can you take this week to work towards that?

Start praying. Be bold and pray with power.

Jesus, you modeled for me the life of a servant. Placing other people above you and paid the ultimate price for my sin through death. Help me to model a life that is lived in humility and exalts others above me.

Start doing. Commit to a step and live it out this week.

- Start the "Grace and humility" Bible reading plan which can be found on the [YouVersion Bible App](#) or at [bible.com](#).
- Consider how you could love others by serving at Westwood or in our community.