



# THE FOREST HILL NEWS

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## The Attractiveness of Humility

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### VISIT US SOON!

#### Sunday:

Bible Study..... 9:30 A.M.  
Morning Worship.... 10:30 A.M.  
Afternoon Worship.... 1:30 P.M.

#### Wednesday:

Bible Study ..... 7:00 P.M.

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There are magazines and media outlets that come up with the most attractive men and women on the planet. Beauty contests, the Junior Miss, Ms. America, and Ms. University pageants, are seeking the most attractive people. There is a reality show trying to find the next supermodel. In an image-conscious world, people have their idea about what beauty and attractiveness are. Yet, the Bible says that humility makes one beautiful.

**The Humble Look Wealthy (Ps. 37:11).** Wealth and glamor are seen as hand in hand by the world, but this is not the kind of wealth the worldly would recognize. David speaks of the humble “inheriting the land” in much the same way Jesus says “the meek shall inherit the earth” (Matt. 5:5). The contrast of the Psalm is between evil-doers who trust in themselves and the righteous who are dependent upon God. Those who rely on God put their trust in the One who has it all.

**The Humble Look Well-Preserved (Ps. 76:9).** The good news is that no face lifts or cosmetics are needed for this well-preserved look. The Psalmist exalted at the fact that God will save the humble. Here, the writer speaks of salvation from a physical calamity. Scripture repeatedly demonstrates humility as a precursor to salvation.

**The Humble Look Like Jesus (Matt. 11:29).** It seems that Isaiah prophesied that Jesus would be plain and ordinary in physical appearance (Isa. 53:2), but no one in all the histories of men is more attractive than Jesus in all the ways that count. Jesus says “I am humble.” When we come to Him and imitate Him, we will look like Him.

**The Humble Look Childlike (Matt. 18:4).** Everyone wants to look younger. Spiritually, Jesus says we must humble ourselves like a child to enter the kingdom. Children in their innocence have the attractive qualities of trust, forgiveness, and gentleness. Those who humble themselves like a little child bear the same marks.

**The Humble Look Well-Placed (Jas. 1:9).** It takes no corruption or “knowing somebody” for the humble to look “well-placed.” The Bible says that God gives a promotion to the one who humbles himself.

**The Humble Look Graceful (Jas. 4:6).** Thankfully, that is not the same as coordinated and adroit. Simply, God gives grace to the humble just as He resists the proud.

**The Humble Look Well-Clothed (1 Pet. 5:5).** You do not have to wear the latest fashions or make the cover of GQ. Humility is the clothing and it perfectly coordinates with anything in a spiritually mature “wardrobe.”

As we contribute our share of money to the billions spent on improving our physical appearance, let us spend more time on the “inward man.” Let us watch and care about our appearance—spiritually! It will make us more attractive to the sensible and spiritual around us, but most importantly it will make us attractive to God!

(from *The Words of Truth*, Vol. 53, No. 3)

## Serve the Lord Together

Mike Bonner

What a blessing and benefit to be servants (especially the family) of the Most High God. What a blessing and treasure it is to serve God with your spouse and children or even your mother and father in the Lord. Just the idea alone should strengthen our faith and give us the resolve to do the will of God from the heart. We must strengthen our families, for if we can do this, then the local congregation will be enriched, encouraged, excited, and empowered to serve one another, and all with whom it comes in contact. Therefore, serving the Lord together will foster a strong family structure. It will guard against the failure of the family, and it will instruct us on how to endure the sufferings of life through obedient service to our local congregation and fellow man (Matt. 22:37-40).

Serving the Lord together requires godly men and fathers in the home. We need more men bringing up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord (Eph. 6:1-4). The family must see the man of the home (if he's in the home) serving the Lord in any capacity he can. He must be like Abraham, for the Lord knew he would command his house (Gen. 18:19). The family must be encouraged through example and education (Deut. 6:1-6) to see the beauty and necessity of being in the lives of others to the glory of God (Matt. 5:13-16). Furthermore, we must have more mothers who are willing to extend the hand of service and sacrifice in the sight of their children. Children must see their mothers serving the Lord as well. This is vitally important, because we're aware of the children spending more time with the mother, than the father.

Can you imagine the balance of a child who is being taught how to think in the home as it relates to serving the Lord and their fellowman? See, children have to be taught that serving their fellow church members or even strangers, is what the Lord desires and it is character building as well (Matt. 25:31-46). When the family visits a *shut-in* or someone in the hospital, or even

engages in a work of service such as yard or house work, so much can be gleaned from that and will make a lasting impression upon all involved (Acts 10:38). How about fellowships and devotionals in the home with members of the church? As Paul told Timothy to be an example (make an imprint) on the lives of the brethren, so will our children be blessed to be a part of a family who hosts great spiritual events such as these. Consider the blessing of children seeing their parents fulfill what Paul told the Ephesian elders, "*it is more blessed to give than to receive*" (Acts 20:35).

Just a few observations worthy of our consideration: Consistently communicating with the family about the work of the Lord and the benefit of sharing, caring, and spending time with those of a like precious faith, is pertinent to spiritual development. We must put a stop to spending the majority of our time with things that are futile and of limited value (Rom.12:1-2). Things such as extra-curricular activities (sports, concerts, plays, etc) must be put in their proper perspective so we do not get lost or lose focus on the main thing, that is, pleasing the Lord and serving our fellowman as a family. The family must keep in the forefront of its mind, that the work of the Lord and the stability of the family is vitally important to the well being of the local congregation, and church at large.

In conclusion, let us do our part in studying the word of God together. Keep in mind, the family that prays earnestly together, will most likely stay together through the ups and downs of life. Leaders in the home must remind the family "the way **UP** is **DOWN**," meaning service is the key to success (Matt. 20:27).

(from *Christian Worker*, June 2016)



## 10 Purposes of Parenting

1. To model Jesus.
2. To pray for our children daily.
3. To demonstrate a life of integrity.
4. To set safe and appropriate boundaries.
5. To be a student of our children's world.
6. To promote our children's unique interests.
7. To encourage a passionate desire for truth.
8. To respect their abilities and self-determination.
9. To influence their beliefs, rather than control their behavior.
10. To shape their environment, because it will influence their hearts.

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