

**Day 14**  
**Put on Your Sunday Best**

**Matthew 5:5 (PHILLIPS) “Happy are those who claim nothing, for the whole earth will belong to them!”**

Clothes play a vital role in our everyday life. The clothes that I am referring to are not necessarily the high-fashion type. High-fashion clothes, for the most part, can be very impractical. We have all heard the saying, “dress appropriately,” meaning dress right for the occasion. If you are working in the yard, it’s highly likely that you won’t be wearing your wedding dress. If you are going to the beach, you probably will be wearing a bathing suit and a t-shirt. Our dress choices are normally determined by where we will be going and what we will be doing.

Jesus said, “The meek inherit the earth.” With these words, Jesus gives us the all-purpose, all of the time, every occasion, never-go-out-of-fashion garments we must wear! **Meekness never goes out of fashion in the Kingdom of God.** Meekness is not only the fashion of our day, it is also the fashion of our future. We will always be dressed in humility and meekness. Listen to how Paul communicates this in his letter to the church in Colosse: **“These are the clothes you must put on, then, since God has chosen you, made you holy, and lavished his love upon you. You must be tender-hearted, kind, humble, meek, and ready to put up with anything.” (Colossians 3:12 NTE)**

We all make choices when it pertains to what we will wear. Most of us are not forced to dress in a particular way. Paul says, “Meekness, humility and kindness are the clothes we must wear.” We put these on; meaning, we choose to wear them or choose not to wear them. Meekness is a conscious choice we make. We choose humility when we understand that our Heavenly Father has chosen us, sanctified us (made us holy) and poured His love on us. Humility shows that we understand completely what Jesus did for us. If we are arrogant, prideful and selfish, it means we don’t comprehend the Father’s love.

Are you dressed and ready? Before you put on your new clothes, you have to be willing to take off your old clothes. Jesus is our example of meekness and humility, so we must be willing to do what Jesus did. But before we can do what He did, we must think like He thought. Before you adjust your clothes, adjust your thinking. Change your attitude so that it will reflect the attitude of Jesus.

**Philippians 2:5-8 (PHILLIPS) “Let Christ himself be your example as to what your attitude should be. For he, who had always been God by nature, did not cling to his prerogatives as God’s equal, but stripped himself of all privilege by consenting to be a slave by nature and being born as mortal man. And, having become man, he humbled himself by living a life of utter obedience, even to the extent of dying, and the death he died was the death of a common criminal.”**

Now here is where we separate the pretenders from the contenders: **“Let Christ himself be your example as to what your attitude should be” or “You must have the same attitude as Christ Jesus.”** You’ve got to have Jesus’ attitude. How is your attitude compared to Jesus’ attitude? He did not cling to His position. He stripped Himself of all privileges. He humbled himself and took the lowest position, that of a slave, and was obedient even though He knew it would cost Him His life. He was willing to die a common criminal’s death, not for Himself, but for others. Is that the clothes you wear? How is your attitude compared to Jesus’ attitude?

Do you cling to your position or even opinion? Are you willing to let go of things you think you deserve, or do you demand your rights? Are you willing to take the lowest position, or are you quick to say “that’s not my job”? Are you willing to lay down your life for another, even if they are not worthy in your estimation? Jesus was exalted because He humbled Himself. Could it be that you are yet to be exalted or promoted because you are still trying to fight for your rights and privileges instead of humbling yourself and having the same attitude as Jesus? Peter writes and admonishes all of us: *“Young men, in the same way, be submissive to those who are older. **All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because ‘God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.’ Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time.”*** (1 Peter 5:5-6 NIV)

Your “overalls” of humility are ready to be worn! Strip yourself of that which you feel you have a right to, and you will find God’s grace. Then, trust your mighty God for the outcome, and you will find what true blessedness is. Remember what Jesus said: *“**Happy are those who claim nothing, for the whole earth will belong to them!**”*

This is what the Lamb says: *“These were his instructions to them: **‘The harvest is great, but the workers are few. So pray to the Lord who is in charge of the harvest; ask him to send more workers into his fields. Now go, and remember that I am sending you out as lambs among wolves.’**”* (Luke 10:2-3 NLT)

You are being sent out, but remember your dress code. Remember the most dangerous animal is not a wolf, but a wolf dressed as a lamb. We are lambs dressed as lambs! Humility truly is your Sunday best. Don’t leave home without it...

#### **Reflection and Prayer:**

- Ask the Lord to examine your thoughts. Begin to think about your most consistent thoughts. If they tend to be prideful and selfish, change them.
- Meditate on these verses about the blessing of meekness:  
*“For the Lord takes delight in his people; **He crowns the humble with victory.**” Psalm 149:4 (NIV)*  
*“The meek will he guide in judgment: and **the meek will he teach his way.**” Psalm 25:9 (KJV)*  
*“When pride comes, then comes shame, but **wisdom is with those who have no pride.**” Proverbs 11:2 (NLV)*  
*“**The meek also shall increase their joy in the Lord, and the poor among men shall rejoice in the Holy One of Israel.**” Isaiah 29:19 (KJV)*
- Pray against a selfish mindset and ask for a heart of meekness. (Warning, you will be placed in situations where your humility will be tested. Pass the test!)