

## **FOUNDATIONS: "THE BEST OF THE BEST"**

### **LESSON 2 "ONE OF THE BEST ATTITUDES IN THE BIBLE"**

**Intro. In this series we are looking at three different people who were exceptional in one particular area of their lives.**

- *Last week we talked about the Roman Centurion's prayer*
- *It was one of the best in the Bible*
  1. Tonight we're going to look at a person who had one of the best attitudes in the Bible
    - a. Our attitude is so important

*Zig Ziglar- "Out of the soul of man flow his **attitudes**, and his **attitudes**, not his **aptitude**, will determine his **altitude** in life."*

2. We're going to look at the person who had an incredibly good attitude
  - *I believe next to Jesus she may have had the best attitude of anyone else in the Bible*
    - a. Our attitude is supposed to be like His

#### **Philippians 2:5-11 (NASB)**

5 **Have this attitude in yourselves** which was also in Christ Jesus,  
6 who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped,  
7 but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men.  
8 Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.  
9 For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name,  
10 so that at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
11 and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

- b. This scripture tells us what Jesus' attitude was; *even though He was God, when He was on earth He didn't demand to be treated like God*
- c. *Even though He was the greatest, He didn't act like the greatest*
- d. We're to have His attitude; to serve, be humble, be obedient, be forgiving, and be full of faith

## **II Kings 5:1-3 (NKJV)**

1 Now Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Syria, was a great and honorable man in the eyes of his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Syria. He was also a mighty man of valor, but a leper.

2 And the Syrians had gone out on raids, and had brought back captive a young girl from the land of Israel. She waited on Naaman's wife.

3 Then she said to her mistress, "If only my master were with the prophet who is in Samaria! For he would heal him of his leprosy."

- 3. This slave girl has to have one of the best attitudes of anyone; she's one of the ***best of the best***
  - a. She was a victim of circumstances
  - b. Because of Israel's sin, the Syrians invaded her homeland, and carried her away as a slave
  - c. She lost her freedom, the freedom to make most of the choices for her own life, she probably wasn't allowed to get married, or have family; ***she was a slave***

- ***The one choice she was left with was what kind of attitude she would have in life***
- *Her attitude was exceptional*
- *There are 3 areas we're going to look at where we need to have a good attitude*

## **I. OUR ATTITUDE TOWARDS \_\_\_\_\_**

### **A. SPECIFICALLY, WE HAVE TO GUARD OUR ATTITUDE WHEN OTHERS HAVE \_\_\_\_\_**

1. The Word of God tells us clearly we can expect to have others \_\_\_\_\_

**Luke 17:1 (NKJV)** Then He said to the disciples, "***It is impossible that no offenses should come...***

- a. Jesus told us we can expect there are going to be those who will do us wrong
  - b. This is one of those things we have no choice in
  - c. No matter how well we treat others; how good, kind, or generous we are them, there will be some who will wrong us
- *This is something we have no control over or choice in*

**B. ONE OF THE BASIC ATTITUDES WE ARE REQUIRED AS BELIEVERS TO MAINTAIN IS AN ATTITUDE OF**

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1. We cannot always choose how others \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. We always have the choice to forgive
  - b. Not only that, but we are ***always required*** to forgive

**Matthew 18:21-22 (NKJV)**

21 Then Peter came to Him and said, "Lord, how often shall my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? Up to seven times?"

22 Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you, up to seven times, but up to seventy times seven.

- *We are to have an attitude of forgiveness no matter how many times a person wrongs us*

**Luke 17:3-5 (NKJV)**

3 "Take heed to yourselves. If your brother sins against you, rebuke him; and if he repents, forgive him.

4 "And if he sins against you seven times in a day, and seven times in a day returns to you, saying, 'I repent,' you shall forgive him."

5 And the apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith."

- *We're to have an attitude of forgiveness even if they wrong us over and over in the same day!*

2. The woman in **2 Kings 5** had an attitude of \_\_\_\_\_ toward those who had wronged her
  - a. The woman in our story had every reason to hate
  - b. Then she hears of Naaman's sickness; leprosy
  - c. In this story she reveals her attitude
  - d. More than just not being bitter, she has incredible compassion for him

**2 Kings 5:3 (NKJV)** Then she said to her mistress, "If only my master were with the prophet who is in Samaria! For he would heal him of his leprosy."

3. One of the greatest forces we have in our lives is the power of \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. When we begin to feel for others instead of judging them on a surface level we are becoming more Christ-like

**1 Samuel 16:7 (NKJV)** For the Lord does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart."

## **II. OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD \_\_\_\_\_**

### **A. WE ALL HAVE THE ABILITY TO \_\_\_\_\_**

**ex.** *This woman in 2 Kings 5 had a great attitude about herself. She was a slave and could have easily given up on life and felt she was destined to be of no importance.*

*She recognized something in herself that all of us have; the ability to influence others.*

1. We all have the ability to influence for \_\_\_\_\_

### **1 Corinthians 1:26-29 (NKJV)**

26 For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called.

27 But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to shame the things which are mighty;  
28 and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are,  
29 that no flesh should glory in His presence.

- a. One of the greatest discoveries we can make in life is our God given ability to influence others

### **1 Peter 2:9-10 (NLT)**

9 But you are not like that, for you are a chosen people. You are a kingdom of priests, God's holy nation, his very own possession. This is so you can show others the goodness of God, for he called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.

10 "Once you were not a people; now you are the people of God. Once you received none of God's mercy; now you have received his

2. We need to \_\_\_\_\_ a better attitude about ourselves
  - a. The Bible warns us about having too high of an opinion of ourselves (pride, arrogance, etc.)
  - b. The opposite can be just as damaging; having such a low opinion of ourselves that we don't recognize our worth or importance
3. The Bible goes to great lengths to declare our \_\_\_\_\_

### **Ephesians 2:8-10 (NKJV)**

8 For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God,

9 not of works, lest anyone should boast.

10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

- *We need to have a good attitude about ourselves*

## **III. OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD \_\_\_\_\_**

## A. GOD LIKES TO BE \_\_\_\_\_

**Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)** But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

**2 Kings 5:3 (NKJV)** Then she said to her mistress, "If only my master were with the prophet who is in Samaria! For he would heal him of his leprosy."

1. She had a great attitude about God
  - a. There is no question in her mind what would happen to Naaman if he would only go to the man of God

### **2 Kings 5:10-14 (NKJV)**

10 And Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go and wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored to you, and you shall be clean."

11 But Naaman became furious, and went away and said, "Indeed, I said to myself, 'He will surely come out to me, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and wave his hand over the place, and heal the leprosy.'

12 Are not the Abanah and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" So he turned and went away in a rage.

13 And his servants came near and spoke to him, and said, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do something great, would you not have done it? How much more then, when he says to you, 'Wash, and be clean'?"

14 So he went down and dipped seven times in the Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God; and his flesh was restored like the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

2. Our attitude towards God needs to be one of faith and trust
  - a. All of us have experienced things in life that weren't exactly what we'd planned
  - b. In the midst of "life" we need to maintain an attitude of faith

**Proverbs 3:5-6 (NKJV)**

5 Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding;

6 In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.

- *Our attitude will largely determine how much we accomplish and how far we go in life*
- *Toward others, toward ourselves, toward God*

**PRAYER AND CONFESSION:** *Father, thank You for Your continued help in changing my life. I need your help with my attitude. Help me to have a better attitude about others; to be quick to forgive and willing to look below the surface in their lives. Help me to have a better attitude toward myself and to see Your possibilities in and through my life. Help me to have a better attitude toward You; an attitude of faith and trust. Thank You for this in Jesus' name, Amen.*

**FILL IN THE BLANKS FROM LESSON #2**

**I. OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD     (OTHERS)**

**A. SPECIFICALLY, WE HAVE TO GUARD OUR ATTITUDE WHEN OTHERS HAVE     (WRONGED US)**

1. The Word of God tells us clearly we can expect to have others     (mistreat us)

**B. ONE OF THE BASIC ATTITUDES WE ARE REQUIRED AS BELIEVERS TO MAINTAIN IS AN ATTITUDE OF     (FORGIVENESS)**

1. We cannot always choose how others     (treat us)
2. The woman in **2 Kings 5** had an attitude of     (compassion)     toward those who had wronged her
3. One of the greatest forces we have in our lives is the power of     (compassion)

## **II. OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD \_\_\_(OURSELVES)**

### **A. WE ALL HAVE THE ABILITY TO \_\_\_(INFLUENCE OTHERS)**

1. We all have the ability to influence for \_\_\_(**good or bad**)
2. We need to \_\_\_(**cultivate**) a better attitude about ourselves
3. The Bible goes to great lengths to declare our **significance**)

## **III. OUR ATTITUDE TOWARD \_\_\_(GOD)**

### **A. GOD LIKES TO BE \_\_\_(BELIEVED AND TRUSTED)**