

I. Introduction:

- A. One of the most important subjects in all of Scripture is the subject of personal humility. God extends grace to the humble person, but resists the proud person (Proverbs 3:34; Isaiah 57:15; James 4:6, 10; 1 Peter 5:5-6). Jesus described Himself as “gentle and humble in heart” (Matthew 11:29, NIV). Mother Teresa described humility as “the mother of all the virtues.”

James 4:6 | “God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble.”

- B. The theme of humility is very prominent in the book of Acts, and notably in the ministry of Apollos. Although we only read a brief glimpse of his life in Scripture, we gain important insight into the virtue that made him so effective in ministry.
- C. The early church apostolic leaders possessed a unique depth of humility, I believe, as we read that “great grace was upon them all” (Acts 4:33). Principally speaking, great grace is the result of great humility. Paul spoke of “serving the Lord with all humility, with many tears and trials” (Acts 20:19). The entire early church experienced much grace due to their humility. Barnabas was noted as having “seen the grace of God” (Acts 11:23) when he went to visit the church community in Antioch.

Acts 4:33 | And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And **great grace was upon them all.**

II. Tonight’s Scripture passage.

Acts 18:24-28 | ²⁴ Now a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man and mighty in the Scriptures, came to Ephesus. ²⁵ This man had been instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in spirit, he spoke and taught accurately the things of the Lord, though he knew only the baptism of John. ²⁶ So he began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Aquila and Priscilla heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately. ²⁷ And when he desired to cross to Achaia, the brethren wrote, exhorting the disciples to receive him; and when he arrived, he greatly helped those who had believed through grace; ²⁸ for he vigorously refuted the Jews publicly, showing from the Scriptures that Jesus is the Christ.

III. Humility in the ministry of Apollos, and its application for our lives today.

- 1. Humble people are teachable.** Apollos had many things going for him on his “ministry resume” so to speak. We read that he could speak well, had a strong grasp of Scripture, received biblical education, was passionate and taught with accuracy. But what is most remarkable about Apollos is that he could be pulled aside and taught more. He was both gifted and teachable.
 - **How about you?** Can people pull you aside and teach you, or do you know more than everyone? Can your parents, pastor, coach, boss, etc. take you aside and show you where there is a gap in your understanding. People who are humble are receptive to feedback (even if it’s given the wrong way) because they know there is so much more that they could know, and that there is so much more room for growth. Humble people understand they will never stop learning and growing in their vocation, ministry, relationships with people, relationship with Jesus, etc. They welcome those who will help them mature.
- 2. Humble people keep growing consistently over time.** After spending time with Aquila and Priscilla, notice how Scripture tells us that Apollos taught “more accurately” (Acts 18:26). Because Apollos made the choice to remain teachable despite all he had going for him, he grew. His teachings were now even more biblical and effective. Never underestimate how much you can grow in your lifetime as a follower of Jesus if you consistently remain humble and teachable. There are so many opportunities for growth and maturity if we simply journey through life as a learner instead of a know-it-all.
 - **Although any age group can struggle with pride and a lack of teachability, this can be especially difficult for young people.** I know first-hand because I was a young adult once, and now I am—well—less young. I’ll just put it that way (humor intended). When we are young, we don’t know what we don’t know. We have little experience. It’s easy to think that mom, dad, coaches, teachers, pastors, etc. have no idea what they’re talking about. Being gifted can also make being teachable more difficult. Purpose to carry yourself like Apollos, who was gifted and yet also humble and teachable.
- 3. Humble people end up being more effective in the long run.** After spending time with Aquila and Priscilla, Apollos went on to Achaia with the marked approval and written commendation of those in Ephesus (Acts 18:27). We read that he “greatly helped” (Acts 18:27) the believers there. I cannot help but think that if Apollos had not humbled himself and remained teachable toward Aquila and Priscilla, he would not have greatly helped anyone. He may have helped, but not in the manner of greatness that he could have. We see this trend continue beyond Achaia. Later in the ministry of Apollos, Paul remarked that “I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase” (1 Corinthians 3:6). In other words, Apollos furthered even Paul’s ministry.

Help me improve my notes! The first person to point out a legitimate mistake/typo on this document (during service) gets \$1.

Greater Peoria House of Prayer Announcements for June 24, 2022.

1. **Welcome** to the Greater Peoria House of Prayer... we're glad you're here and blessed to be worshipping God with you! Be sure to pick up the **free** materials at the back table in the prayer room or the desk near the front of the downstairs fellowship area, which includes teaching notes, stickers, pens, prayer cards and more. **Daily schedule:** We have morning prayer right here in this room seven days a week from 7-8 a.m. Monday - Friday and 8-9 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. We have afternoon prayer four days a week: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 11:30 a.m. - noon. We have evening prayer with live worship from 6-8 p.m. Monday - Saturday. On Friday's, we have an extra prayer gathering from 10 a.m. - noon. Our **Friday Encounter Night** is from 6-9 p.m. and is our main corporate gathering each Friday evening featuring live worship and a teaching to inspire love for Jesus and prayer.
2. **UPCOMING EVENTS:** We pray from 7 - 8 p.m. every night seven days a week. Come on out! Global Prayer Night is tomorrow, June 25, from 7 - 8:30 p.m. and every fourth Saturday thereafter. Kids Camp 2022 is Monday, July 18 - Friday, July 22 from 3:30 - 5 p.m. each day. Friday, July 22 is Family Fun Night at the park at 5 p.m. Register at gphop.org/events. Hope to see you and your kids the week of July 22! The Central Illinois Leadership Summit: Voices of Wisdom is September 7 - 9. More to come on this event!
3. **Prayer room ministry opportunities:** If you are interested in leading or ministering during a live worship set by singing, playing an instrument, prayer leading or behind the sound board, please contact us at info@gphop.org. We'd love to have you serve on one of our teams! **Team ministry opportunities:** If you feel the Lord has gifted you in the prophetic (or would like to grow in this gifting) and would consider helping on a prophetic team, send an email to info@gphop.org. Contact Mandy Kistner at mandy@gphop.org if you would like to schedule a future healing ministry appointment or help out on the healing team.
4. **Missions:** Please keep the following missionaries we support in prayer as well as be sensitive to their financial needs: **Ashley Bucknam** (YWAM, Hawaii); **Alicia Wright** (India); **Tim and Blair Fraim** (Florianopolis House of Prayer; Florianopolis, Brazil); **Eric and Erin Simmons** (Minnesota House of Prayer Network; Twin Cities, MN); **Austin and Amy Zhu** and **Phil Kellenberger** (International House of Prayer; Kansas City, MO); **Babett Mueller** (111 Global; Kansas City, MO). Also keep friends **Tyler and Sarah Cook** and family in prayer who lead the Illinois Valley House of Prayer in Ottawa, IL.
5. **Military:** Please keep the following members of our military in prayer as they valiantly serve the United States of America: **Jake Gerst**, stationed in Grafenwoehr/Grafenwöhr, Germany. **Kyle Nix**, stationed in Lackland Air Force Base in Bexar County, Texas.
6. **Social media:** Follow us on Facebook (Greater Peoria House of Prayer - GPHOP), Twitter (@GPHOPPrayer), Instagram (@GPHOPPrayer), Vimeo and YouTube for regular updates and inspiration. Use these social media sites to get the word out, share pictures, quotes you heard, etc. Contact Derek at derek@gphop.org if you're interested in helping with GPHOP's social media.
7. **Haven ministries:** Do you need space to pray just one-on-one. Maybe your Christian group needs a place to meet every once in awhile. We're making available the upper Prayer Room and lower-level Gathering Grounds for rent by donation. Email info@gphop.org if interested.
8. We provide **free Wi-Fi** to everyone here! The password for the **GPHOP** router is on the chalkboard in the downstairs fellowship area. You can also connect to either the CableWiFi or xfinitywifi routers if you have a personal Comcast account.
9. **Prayer requests:** If you would like our community to pray for something specific, please submit it to info@gphop.org.
10. **Giving:** If you have been blessed by the GPHOP and would like sow financially into the ministry, we would be more than blessed. You can give in cash, but if you would like to give to GPHOP with a check, please make it out to "Greater Peoria House of Prayer" or "GPHOP"—your gift is tax deductible. Thank you for your generosity! It's helping make day and night prayer with worship possible in central Illinois. You can place your gift in the Saturday night offering during the 7 p.m. teaching or drop it in either of the two black donation boxes. Donations can also be mailed to our physical address at 117 East Washington Street, East Peoria, IL 61611. Donors can also use PayPal or our website (gphop.org/donate) to give electronically.

*Thank you for helping to **keep this prayer room sacred** by ensuring conversations with others are brief and kindly reminding others to do the same. Use the large Gathering Grounds fellowship area downstairs if you would like to chat at length.*