

Being Humble Without Saying It!

Has anyone watched any football this year? How about the World Series? On numerous occasions, we have seen athletes run for or make a spectacular catch for a touchdown or maybe hit one out for a walk-off home run. Maybe you're a tennis fan and you have seen a player make a grand display when they have won a championship or completed a marathon match. We have grown rather accustomed to such displays of chest-thumping or drawing attention to themselves.

Could you imagine a minister walking down the aisle at the end of a service and yelling, "Man, I ROCKED that sermon today!" I am here to tell you that yes, sometimes, some ministers and preachers get caught up in themselves and forget for a moment why they are in church in the first place. It is as if they would want the congregation to carry them around the building on their shoulders for a brief victory lap. Or, a church-goer standing in front of the church to congratulate herself as she says, "I prayed better than anyone today. Dang, I'm good!"

There are also congregations who take great pride in what they may do for the community or in a particular ministry. They may boast,

“Our congregation has more people than anyone and we vet our members to ensure that they are truly giving a certain percentage of their income to the church.” While we want to spread the word that we love our congregation, that we are a good place to worship, a great community that you can join, and have the best pastor in the world (so much for humility, eh?)

When it comes to our church we have to walk a fine line between advertising and boasting when it comes to our churches. It is crucial that we have Jesus Christ as the head of our church. It is equally important that we get the word out that, no matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, that you are welcome here. We also don’t want to stress our humility. We need to all simply go about our business of being the best practicing Christian that we can be. Some days we’ll have it down quite nicely. Other times, we may demonstrate why we say we are indeed “practicing” Christianity.

May we go forth this day and be humble in our practice, in our speech, and in our lives. Amen.