

Topic: Character – Lowly (Lesson 434)

Note: The practical applications provided in the lesson are offered as suggestions to help the saints in their preparation. They are not meant to direct or limit the ways in which the focus of the lesson can be applied. The saints are encouraged to pray and contact the Lord to receive His burden and guidance in teaching and applying the lesson. Fellowship with other saints, and inquiring of the children themselves, may also bring out many helpful applications.

Elementary:

Verse: “Put on therefore...inward parts of compassion, kindness, lowliness...” (Colossians 3:12a).

Focus: A lowly person is one who, while aiming high to do their best, does not consider themselves to be more important than other people. They are willing to let others go first.

Practical Application: When you are at the playground, do you always want to be first on the swing or slide, or do you sometimes let others go in front of you? When it is meal time, do you always want to be first and get the biggest piece? A lowly person does not think that they are more important than others and are willing to let others go first.

Intermediate:

Verse: “Be of the same mind toward one another, not setting your mind on the high things but going along with the lowly...” (Romans 12:16a).

Focus: A lowly person is one who, while aiming high to do their best, does not consider themselves to be more important than other people. They do not insist that others accept their view or way of doing things and they do not argue with others.

Practical Application: Suppose you were given a group science project at school. You then spend a lot of time researching and planning what to write and draw. Your group mates may not have worked as hard, but they also have some ideas and suggestions. Would you argue with them and insist on your way since you labored the most and may know the most? A lowly person does not insist that their way is the best and is open to others’ views or ways of doing things.

Advanced:

Verse: “Doing nothing by way of selfish ambition nor by way of vainglory, but in lowliness of mind considering one another more excellent than yourselves; Not regarding each his own virtues, but each the virtues of others also” (Philippians 2:3–4).

Focus: No matter how respected or highly esteemed by others, a lowly person will not boast about themselves being better than others. Only by taking a lowly position (not making ourselves higher than others) can we help others.

Practical Application: You may have a sport that you are very good at. You’ve worked hard and practiced every day to develop your skills and abilities. Your coach and teammates commend you for your consistency and contribution to the team. Do you boast about how well you played and expect people to treat you better or differently? Do you help your fellow teammates who may not be as good as you are? How would you react if your coach decides to put you in a less important position? A lowly person would not esteem themselves higher than others and does not brag. Others can receive help from them because they don’t display an attitude of superiority.