

HUMILITY IN OUR FAITH

We are instructed in scripture to be humble in spirit. Humility is a necessary virtue of living faith. We see in 1 Peter 5:5, "*...be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble*". We know that pride is a worldly trait, and that even as believers we can become prideful. In Proverbs 16:5 we are told that "*Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord*". 1 John 2:16 tells us "*For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the the Father, but is of the world*". Jesus himself told his disciples and followers in Luke 12:1 "*beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy*". The Pharisees were a powerful sect of the Jews who considered themselves more zealous and righteous than everyone else. By their own strict rules they claimed to be more holy and Godly than the rest of the Jews. Yet Christ called them blind guides and fools (Matthew 23:16) because they were only outwardly righteous (self-righteous). He said their influence on others was like leaven, and cautioned his followers to beware of this influence which, because of the flesh, is easily spread. As believers we can become hypocritical as well. Therefore we need to be careful in our belief and relationships with others.

This does not mean we should avoid witnessing to others and speaking of living faith, repentance and forgiveness. We are commanded to preach or spread the word and to let our light shine unto others. This should be done with humility and love. Humility prevents hypocrisy, and charity or love is patient, and is kind (1 Cor 13:4-8). In 1 Peter 3:15 we are told that we should "*...sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear*".

Greetings of Gods Peace,
Al Wuori

Online Broadcasts

From our webpage: <http://www.tapiolachurch.org/> you will see the mixlr live audio – we will be 'on the air' during our church services.

Winter Schedule

Sunday Service 11:00am. Sunday School/Adult Bible Study 9:45am
Wednesday night Bible Study 7pm

Mar 06	Ken Storm	Holy Communion
Mar 13	Chad Kuivanen	
Mar 20	Ken Storm	
Mar 25	Ken Storm	7pm Good Friday
Mar 27	Ken Storm	Easter Sunday, Meal following
Mar 30	John Ruotsala	7pm

TAPIOLA APOSTOLIC LUTHERAN CHURCH
P.O. Box 531
Houghton, MI 49931