

# Prepare Your Heart

June 28, 2020

**Parents, this short lesson is a way to dig in just a bit deeper about one particular biblical truth from today's sermon.** There are three parts to this lesson.

1. A quick overview of a **basic bible truth** to help your kids understand more about one part of the verses covered today. This is written so you can just **read it out loud** to your kids.
2. A list of **action words** is provided for you to use all week to prompt a practical response to the sermon in the lives of your family.
3. An optional follow-up craft, game or **activity** to reinforce something your kids learned today.

## ***What is a biblical truth we will learn from today's verses?***

"Finally, all of you, be like-minded and sympathetic, love as brothers, be tenderhearted and humble."  
(1 Peter 3:8 ESV)

## ***What is the Bible trying to tell me?***

### **Christians should work towards being "like-minded".**

When you hear this phrase, "like-minded", what do you picture in your head? Do you think of people all dressed in the same clothes, doing the same job, maybe all of them eating the same kind of food? If everyone dressed alike, worked alike and ate alike, would that help us to all get along and never fight? It's an interesting thought, but all of the things I just described are things people see and do on the *outside*. When Peter is teaching us about being "like-minded" as a church, he is talking about how people think and act on the *inside*. This means all Christians, everywhere, (no matter what clothes they wear, or what food they eat) should all be working towards the same goal in their *minds*. Paul explains the goal in this way in Romans 15: 5-6, "May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you the same *attitude of mind* toward each other that Christ Jesus had, so that **with one mind and one voice you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.**" That verse is pretty clear that we should all have the same mind to glorify God. That means that we live in such a way that everyone around us knows we are Christians because we think God is great (greater than us), that he deserves all the praise we give him (we shouldn't look for praise for ourselves), and that we love him (more than we love ourselves). Sounds easy enough, right? But how do we do that? How do we become "like-minded" with our Christian friends and family? Just as Paul gave us a reason to be like-minded, Peter gives us some practical ways to reach that goal. In 1 Peter 3:8 he tells us how we can be "like-minded". He tells us that God is calling us to be "sympathetic, love as brothers, be tenderhearted, and humble". Those are four things we can do that will help us to get along with others and have unity, and that brings glory to God! Think of this example. Imagine if you were called on to be in a special choir. Everyone who was called to sing in this choir had a different kind of voice. Some sang high, some sang low, some sang really well and some could barely hum the tune. Now imagine all the choir members singing their own song, trying to be the loudest to have their voices heard, not respecting the other choir members and not paying any attention to the leader. A choir like that sounds awful! What really makes a beautiful sound is all the voices blending together, working together, humbly following the conductor. Christians should do their best to have unity, or be like-minded. Being humble, tender-hearted and loving your friends and family more than you love yourself makes Christians everywhere like-minded, and gives God all the glory.

**Action words** (can help me remember each day this week what I learned on Sunday)

This week I will...

**LOVE** my brothers and sisters in Christ

**BE TENDERHEARTED** towards those around me.

**BE HUMBLE** because God deserves all the glory and honor, not me.

**Activity** - Are the children in these situations being boastful or humble?

What to do:

Read the following stories and ask HUMBLE or BOASTFUL?

1. Jimmy came running home from school. He got an "A+" on today's quiz. He thanked his mom for encouraging him to study the night before.
2. Tammy looked around at the other girls in her classroom. None of them had as nice a dress as she did. She couldn't wait for someone to notice, so she told everyone how pretty her dress was.
3. Carl knew his parents were wealthy. He always got a large allowance. But all of his friends said Carl didn't act rich, instead he was very generous.
4. Liz was doing great in school, was captain of her soccer team, and had many friends. She didn't need to worry about Jesus right now in her life.
5. As James entered his friend's house, he noticed how old and dirty everything looked. He laughed and said, "Our furniture looks much nicer than yours."
6. Justin saw the mess his younger sister made. There was mud all over the floor. He knew his mom would clean it up, but he decided to do it himself before she noticed.

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**How does being humble apply to today's Bible lesson?**