



# POINTCHURCH

*Devotional*

## GET OFF OF YOUR HIGH HORSE

**THEMES:** Humility

**Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV)** <sup>28</sup> "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

During the American Revolution, a group of soldiers had been assigned to cut down some trees to make a bridge across a creek. The job was tough and the men were making very slow progress. As they worked and sweated, a man rode up on a horse and stopped to watch them. The man on the horse spoke to one of the soldiers, who was not working but was giving orders to the others. "You don't have enough men, do you?" the man on the horse asked. "No," said the man who had been giving orders. "Why don't you lend a hand yourself?" the man on the horse asked. "Me?" the soldier answered in a shocked tone. "Why, sir, *I am a corpora!*" "Ah," said the man on the horse, as if the soldier's rank explained everything. The visitor then got off his horse and helped the soldiers finish the project. When the trees were all cut down and the bridge was built, he got back on his horse and saluted the corporal. "The next time there's work to be done and you don't have enough men to do it, just call for your commander in chief, and I will come again," he said. The man on the horse was General George Washington.

This story is in William Bennett's book *The Moral Compass*. The simple choice to work hard, to be a part of the team and to not regard himself greater than his soldiers, showed the greatness of George Washington. He was a general and the commander in chief of all the American armies in the Revolutionary War. Yet, he got off of his horse and humbled himself to do the job before him. (This was the same work the corporal wouldn't do!)

As much as we respect George Washington, how much greater is our Lord, Jesus Christ! Still, he humbled himself to do things that were not required but would change the lives of others. Jesus touched lepers. He ate supper with sinners. Jesus hugged children.

He fed hungry people. Although he was God manifested in the flesh, living in the world He created....Jesus humbled himself and came to earth to live a sinless life and to die a sacrificial death for our sins. "... *He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.*" **Philippians 2:8 (NKJV)** The example of Jesus reminds us that humility is good and right. If Jesus was not "too proud to be humble," we should let him teach us. "*Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.*" (**James 4:10**).

### DO YOU WANT TO GO DEEPER?

**REFLECT/DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:** How do you think the army corporal felt when he realized he had been too proud to work with his soldiers on a lowly job but his superior officer, General George Washington, worked right beside them? What are some examples from the life of Jesus which showed he was "humble and gentle" with people? How can you let Jesus teach you to be humble and gentle today?

**PRAY:** "God, I thank you for humbling yourself and becoming a man so that you could die for my sins. Please teach me to be humble and gentle toward everyone I meet."

**MORE SCRIPTURES:** Hebrews 11:24-27; John 15:20; Matthew 18:3-4; James 4:6

*-Humble Yourself before your God and He Will Lift You Up-*