

“Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.” James 4:10

“When the devil cannot win by scorn and mockery, he tries praise and flattery”
Desert Mother Amma Synceltica.

The dictionary defines humility as “a modest or low view of one's own importance”. Notice that it does not say a low view of one’s value or worth. We are “fearfully and wonderfully made” we are told in Psalm 139:14. We are children of God and joint heirs with Christ. Our value is high. But just as John told his disciples that he must decrease in importance so that Jesus could increase (John 3:30), nothing about our life or our attributes should make us value our importance too highly. Sometimes we just have to get over ourselves. Satan loves to use praise and flattery to get us to think more highly of ourselves than we should, thus falling into the trap of self-importance. Attention should go to God because He gave us the beauty, the talents, the gifts, the abilities, the skills and the intelligence to accomplish any and all things from which we might obtain human praise. Accept the praise and be thankful but remember to be humble and give the credit and praise where it belongs...to the one who made us and gifted those things to us. And in our humility, he will lift us up.