

HUMILITY

Definition

The quality of not thinking you are better than other people; modest view of one's own importance.

Story

Michael Jordan was cut from the Emsley A. Laney High School basketball team in Wilmington the first year he tried out. And he never forgot it.

He lost his high school championship game facing West Charlotte, losing 84 to 67 at the Chapel Hill Smith Center. And he never forgot it.

His memories didn't weaken his ambition. They haunted him. He knew he could be defeated.

As a pro, he missed almost 9,000 shots. He lost almost 300 games. He's taken game winning shots and missed. Yet, he became one of the best athletes in the history of civilization.

Although he had the world's cockiest swagger, he was basically the most teachable and coachable player any team ever had. He became one of the greatest basketball players to ever play the game. He made 12,192 shots, was a six-time NBA champion, five-time MVP, 10-time All-NBA First Team, All-NBA Second Team, Defensive Player of the Year, nine-time All-Defensive First Team, Rookie of the Year, 14-time All-Star, three-time All-Star MVP, and Olympic gold medalist.

Quotes

“My best skill was that I was coachable. I was a sponge and aggressive to learn.” *Michael Jordan*

“Humility is the mother of giants. One sees great things from the valley; only small things from the peak.” *G.R. Chesterton*

Interaction

1. What is one thing an authority figure in your life has been teaching you that you have ignored?
2. What is one thing you can learn from a current teammate?

Main Idea

You may think you are the best at what you do, because that is what you have always been told. You may think you are not very good at anything, because that is what you have always been told. The truth is, there is always somebody better than you and you are always better than someone else. However, it is best to not compare yourself at all. Just be you! And when you know you, you know what to work on.

To be coachable is to know that there is someone out there who cares about you enough that they are willing to help you in those areas in which you need improvement. It shows great honor for you to allow someone else to come alongside you with their knowledge and teach you. In reality, we need other people. People see things in us that we can't see in ourselves. And who knows, maybe one coachable moment will lead to a lifetime of people wanting to "walk in your shoes."

Take Away

"Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it's thinking of yourself less." **C.S. Lewis**