**The Imitation of Christ by Thomas A. Kempis**

**BOOK THREE:** INTERNAL CONSOLATION

**Chapter 51:** When We Cannot Attain to the Highest, We Must Practice the Humble Works

**Quote:**

“The [Voice](https://godrules.net/store/Voice-Dialers.htm) of Christ

MY CHILD, you cannot always continue in the more fervent desire of virtue, or remain in the higher stage of contemplation, but because of humanity's sin you must sometimes descend to lower things and [bear](https://godrules.net/store6/cold-steel-inferno-pepper-spray-6.htm) the burden of this corruptible [life](http://www.titanicimports.com/store2/tools-techniques-life-insurance-planning.htm), albeit unwillingly and wearily. As [long](https://godrules.net/store5a/arta-304-202-104-tea-leaf-infuser-6.htm) as you wear a mortal [body](https://godrules.net/store3/05-08-chrysler-300c-chrome-pillars-7.htm) you will suffer weariness and heaviness of [heart](https://godrules.net/store4/polar-heart-monitor-training-computer-4.htm). You ought, therefore, to bewail in the flesh the burden of the flesh which keeps you from giving yourself unceasingly to spiritual exercises and divine contemplation.

In such condition, it is well for you to apply yourself to humble, outward works and to refresh yourself in good deeds, to await with unshaken confidence My heavenly visitation, patiently to [bear](https://godrules.net/store6/cold-steel-inferno-pepper-spray-6.htm) your exile and dryness of mind until you are again visited by Me and freed of all [anxieties](https://godrules.net/library/topics/topic84.htm). For I will cause you to forget your labors and to enjoy inward quiet. I will spread before you the open fields of the Scriptures, so that with an open [heart](https://godrules.net/store4/polar-heart-monitor-training-computer-4.htm) you may begin to advance in the way of My [commandments](http://www.amazon.com/gp/search?ie=UTF8&keywords=Christian%20commandments). And you will say: the sufferings of this [time](http://www.titanicimports.com/store2b/lathem-4001-automatic-heavy-duty-recorder.htm) are not worthy to be compared with the future glory which shall be revealed to us.”

**Definition:**

Humble works - Modest, often simple actions or tasks performed with a spirit of service and selflessness.

**Scripture:**

Matthew 5:16

Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

Philippians 2:3-4

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others.

Galatians 6:9

Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.

Colossians 3:23-24

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward.

Luke 14:13-14

But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."

**Concept:**

Spiritual Growth often involves small consistent humble actions rather than grand gestures

**Discussion:**

Matthew 5:16 encourages us to let our light shine through good deeds. How can we practically apply this in our daily lives, and what are some specific actions we can take to glorify God through our service?

Philippians 2:3-4 emphasizes valuing others above ourselves. How can adopting this mindset change our interactions with friends, family, and strangers, and what challenges might we face in doing so?

Galatians 6:9 reminds us not to grow weary in doing good. What are some ways we can stay motivated and encouraged in our service to others, especially when we don’t see immediate results?

Colossians 3:23-24 speaks to working wholeheartedly as if for the Lord. How can this perspective transform our approach to even the most mundane tasks, and what impact might it have on our overall attitude toward service?