

Week 10  
60/305

## Transforming Daily

*“ . . . and be clothed with humility . . . ”*  
*1 Peter 5:5*

Have you ever heard the saying, “In like a lamb out like a lion, in like a lion out like a lamb?” I don’t know who coined the phrase, but it refers to the conditions in which the month of March begins. This saying reminds me of a story one of my professors told me. The story was about a young preacher and an old deacon.

As I recall it, a young preacher had just taken his first pastorate and he wanted to impress the congregation on his first Sunday. He studied hard and prepared long. He memorized his manuscript and was certain of all the material. The morning service arrived and he took the pulpit by storm. He bounded up the steps of the platform skipping a step in between. As he aggressively reached his destination behind the pulpit, he began with a loud voice commanding the congregation to open their Bibles to the designated passage of Scripture. The young preacher spoke with confidence and authority. His body language reinforced every word that he spoke. However, not too far into the sermon it became painfully obvious to the young minister that the once excited and expectant congregation was now growing disinterested and distracted. Feeling defeated, the young preacher concluded his sermon without a single positive response from the congregation. He couldn’t understand it. He was ready. He was prepared. He knew the material. What went wrong?

As he slowly closed his Bible, almost mumbling and hard to hear, the preacher whispered a short and quiet prayer to dismiss the congregation. He dropped his head and slumped down the stairs making his way to his office. Just as he got to the bottom of the steps, standing there was an old deacon. The deacon, discerning and wise, simply said, “If you would have gone in the way you came out, you would have come out the way you went in.”

Humility is an indispensable spiritual discipline and is often an indicator of how well we are transforming daily to the image of Christ. After all no one does humility like Jesus who came in like a Lamb and went out like a Lion. Oh, and by the way, He’s coming back as a Warrior!