

Junior High BDG  
Doulos: Meli, Andrew

## The Greatness of Humility: Johann S. Bach

Quotes about J.S. Bach:

- (1) Background: the name “Bach” is translated brook or river in German.  
**“His name should not be Brook. It should be Ocean.” –Beethoven.**
- (2) **“[Bach] is the stupendous miracle of all music.” –Wagner.**
- (3) **“Bach almost persuades me to be Christian.” –Roger Fry.**

Bach is one of the best known names in music. His works are some of the most famous and even the most difficult to play. However, where did he get his inspiration from?

**“The aim and final end of all music should be none other than the glory of God and the refreshment of the soul.”**

A few notes about J.S. Bach:

1. He is a Lutheran and has been the keyboardist at many churches.
2. Part of his family tradition are morning devotions, which included singing songs of praise... with him at the piano, of course!
3. His fame did not come until 100 years after he died.

What shall we learn from His life?

- (1) What we do should be a result of our fear of God (Prov. 15:33)
  - a. What does “fear” mean?
    - i. NOT: I’m so scared, I don’t want to be there.
    - ii. Respect, Honor, Valuation.
  - b. If what we do is not because of God, we’re doing it for other reasons (idolatry)
- (2) Only in humility will the Spirit do His work effectively through us.
  - a. God only works through the humble, because the proud don’t need God!
  - b. Sometimes (like Bach), the fruits of His work don’t appear in our lifetime.

Groups: In small groups, we will discuss how some of the lessons from Bach can be applied to our lives.

**Opening activity:**

In your groups (guys/girls), pick one person (who is in 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade). That person will be the focus of your skit. Now, put that person's name in the blank below:

\_\_\_\_\_ fears God.

Come up with a skit that gives us an idea of that statement above.