

## ALL-STAR WITH HUMILITY

Albert Pujols is a professional baseball first baseman and designated hitter for the Los Angeles Angels of Major League Baseball. He previously played 11 seasons for the St. Louis Cardinals, where he was a three-time National League Most Valuable Player (2005, 2008 and 2009), a nine-time All-Star, and a two-time World Series champion (2006 and 2011). He was also named an All-Star with the Angels in 2015.

But the people who know Pujols best say that even more impressive than his feats on the field is his life off the field. For one thing, the Pujols Family Foundation he started offers support and care to people with Down syndrome and their families. The foundation also helps the poor in Pujols' native Dominican Republic. But Albert Pujols seeks in other ways to practice what he preaches.

On one occasion, while speaking at an event at Lafayette Senior High School in Missouri, Pujols read Philippians 2:3 to the crowd: "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves."

He added: "One way for me to stay satisfied in Jesus is for me to stay humble. Humility is getting on your knees and staying in God's will – what He wants for me, not what the world wants. It would be easy to go out and do whatever I want, but those things only satisfy the flesh for a moment. Jesus satisfies my soul forever."



Read that last quote again. Albert Pujols has the resources to live anyway he wants. He could live by the standard so popular in our society today – "if it feels good, do it." He could live only to satisfy his own appetites. So why doesn't he?

The answer is in his faith in Christ: "Jesus satisfies my soul forever."

Christ said that we are to watch ourselves, but we are not only responsible for our own behavior, we are also responsible for the example we set for others.

That requires character and humility.

*The reward for humility and fear of the Lord is riches and honor and life (Proverbs 22:4 ESV).*

– Beecher Hunter