

“Pride”

Series: *I'm Over This*
(Part 4 of 4)

Open: Which quote can you relate to? a) “No one ever choked to death swallowing his own pride.” b) “Temper gets you into trouble, pride keeps you there.” c) “Pride is the mask we make of our faults.” d) “It is a beggar’s pride that he is not a thief.”

Explore: Read Philippians 2:1-11.

Although Jesus came to the earth as God in the flesh, Christians are called to have his attitude of self-sacrificing humility and love for others.

1. What characteristics can be seen as evidence in a person’s life that they have unity with Christ (vs. 1-2)?
2. What did Paul have to say about being self-centered vs. others-centered (vs. 3-4)?
3. Why did Christ take on the limitations of being human (vs. 5-9)? What did God do for Jesus because of his extreme humility?
4. How does Chris’ example of humility challenge you today?

Reflect: Review key points from the lesson before answering the questions.

1. The Bible says, “Pride goes before destruction” (Proverbs 16:18). Can you think of a time when “pride” got you into trouble?
2. How would you summarize the difference between humility and pride? Is there ever a time when pride is a good thing?
3. Read James 4:6. Why do you believe God so adamantly opposes the proud? In what way(s) have you seen (don’t mention names) pride hurt a person’s relationship with God? ...with others?
4. Getting over pride has a lot to do with the way we relate to others. Can you think of any areas/relationships in which you may be struggling with pride (work, family, marriage, friendships, church, serving, etc.)? What negative attitudes, feelings, or thoughts have you been dealing with as a result?
5. If pride has been getting in the way of growing healthy relationships with God or others, it is time to make a change? What will you do this week to make things right or put the interest of others ahead of your own? How can the group pray for you?

Apply: Live it.

As a group: Unfortunately, pride can show up in the best of families, friends, and CARE Groups. What steps can your group take to ensure that you are staying the course of showing humility to one another? ...potential members? ...the community?

On your own: Memorize James 4:6. What will you do this week to exercise Christ-like humility to those around you? Select three people you know and put their interests ahead of your own - ambush them with love, generosity, and kindness this week.

Listening Guide Notes

“God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.” –James 4:6 (p. 849)

Two big problems pride causes in my life ...

1. Pride hurts my relationship with God.

“Do you see a person wise in their own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for them.” –Proverbs 26:12 (p. 456)

“Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.” –Proverbs 16:18 (p. 449)

2. Pride hurts my relationship with others.

“Where there is strife, there is pride...” –Proverbs 13:10 (p. 446)

To get over pride...

1. Love others completely.

“Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.” –Romans 12:10 (p. 790)

2. Encourage others continually.

“Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.” –1 Thessalonians 5:11 (p. 825)

^[13] “The next day Moses took his seat to serve as judge for the people, and they stood around him from morning till evening. ^[14] When his father-in-law saw all that Moses was doing for the people, he said, ‘What is this you are doing for the people? Why do you alone sit as judge, while all these people stand around you from morning till evening?’ ^[15] Moses answered him, ‘Because the people come to me to seek God’s will. ^[16] Whenever they have a dispute, it is brought to me, and I decide between the parties and inform them of God’s decrees and laws.’ ^[17] Moses’ father-in-law replied, ‘What you are doing is not good.’” –Exodus 18:13-17 (p. 51)

3. Serve others faithfully.

“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” –1 Peter 4:10 (p. 852)