

10.18.2020

Humility: Humility's Proud Enemy and Pictures of Pride

Sermon Questions for your Small Group/LifeGroup to think on...

Sermon Outline(s):



Christian Humility: the Spirit-fueled ongoing, proper, and honest posturing of man whereby he remains, in light of God and His divine will, acutely aware of and in joyful surrender to who and what he is, both in potential and limitation, and thereby experiencing and fulfilling the reason for which he has been made, and ultimately remade in Christ, to the glory of God.

Sermon Points:

1. **Pride has its beginning for mankind.**
 2. **Pride challenges the integrity, nature, and character of God.**
 3. **Pride centers self, replacing God's will with one's own; ultimately replacing God Himself.**
 4. **Pride blinds the heart and mind.**
 5. **Pride minimizes personal sin and failure, while promoting self over and against all others.**
 6. **Pride always and inevitably leads to a fall.**
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1. **Pride is seen through our self-righteousness.**

Being humble is not lacking the awareness of pride in your life, as if its perceived absence is the proof of its opposite; rather humility is a holy hatred of even the most miniscule evidence of the presence of pride in the deepest recesses of the heart and mind.

 - a. **Evidence of Self-Righteousness:**
 - i. **Concern over personal sin is very small**
 - ii. **Contentment found in how well you're doing**
 - iii. **General apathy toward growth**
 2. **Pride is exposed in our competitive drive.**
 - a. **Evidence of Competitive Pride:**
 - i. **Covetousness**
 - ii. **Jealousness**
 - iii. **Slander**
 - iv. **Hatred**
 - v. **Elitism/Bigotry**
 - vi. **Lack of Trust**
 - vii. **Paranoia**
 - viii. **Perfectionism**
 3. **Pride is revealed by the kingdom we build.**
 - a. **Symptoms of Pride in Kingdom Building:**
 - i. **Never Satisfied**
 - ii. **Always checking in**
 - iii. **Addicted to comfort**
 - iv. **Refusal to sacrifice for the kingdom**
 - v. **Busyness**
 4. **Pride is exposed in our nagging insecurities.**
 - a. **Pride Revealed in Insecurities:**
 - i. **People who are people pleasers**
 - ii. **People who can't say no**
 - iii. **People who labor over image, perception, appearance BECAUSE their worth is seemingly defined by them**
 - iv. **Always defending your identity as you want it defined, rather than God**

Questions:

1. What stuck out to you from the weekend messages?
2. Why is it important to realize and understand that PRIDE has a beginning for mankind?
3. How would you define pride? How does pride attack the character and position of God?
4. How does pride blind us? What is an example you've witness or been a part of where that happened?
5. Why does pride minimize personal flaws, while exaggerating other people's flaws? How does this reveal itself in marriage and other relationships? How can being aware of this help us in critical moments?
6. Seeing our own manifestations of pride isn't always easy. How do you "figure out" where your blind spots are?
7. Self-righteousness is often never noticed, especially when things are going well. How do we guard against trusting in ourselves and our performance when things are rolling along with very few bumps?
8. Competition isn't always a bad thing. Paul says to run in such a way as to win the prize, but a competitive heart may be evidence of underlying pride. How can I know when competition has crossed over from healthy to the manifestation of sinful pride?
9. How have you seen evidence of prideful competition in our world? In your life?
10. We are taught by our culture to pursue the American Dream of building your own kingdom... and yet Scripture teaches us to the contrary to focus on His kingdom. Compare and contrast these two kingdoms. Are they mutually exclusive?
11. Insecurities reveal our inability to manage and maintain ourselves, images, assets, etc. perfectly or with full control. Too often we overcompensate, and find ourselves doing too much, or simply too much of the wrong things. How have you seen that in your own life?
12. Which manifestations of pride are most prominent in your life?
13. All manifestations of pride are similar in that they point to the same "stem" from which they all flow and from one root from which they all shoot up. How does that help us as we seek to grow in maturity in Christ?