Introduction:
A. Words of boasting, flattery and exaggeration might be classified as ______ talk.
B. Ego is not all ______, it is part of the way God __________ us.
C. Ego is designed to help us properly________ about ourselves and others.
D. Scripture tells us that the proper control factor for our ego is the ________ of God and the indwelling __________ of God (Eph. 5:18).

I. The Ego Talk of Boasting
A. The boaster fails to realize that boasting is both ______ and __________ suicide.
B. Here’s what the Bible says about boasting (Ps. 94:4; Pr. 27:1; Rom. 1:29-30; 1 Jn. 2:16; Jude 1:16).
C. Why shouldn’t we be boasting or bragging?
   1. Because everything we are and everything we have is because of _______ __________. (1 Cor. 4:7; Deut. 8:10-18)
   2. Because we have no __________ of the __________. (Pr. 27:1; Jms 4:13-16)
   3. Because it steals the ________ from the ______ to whom it is _______. (Num. 20:10; Acts 12:23; Ps. 34:2; 44:8; 2 Cor. 10:17; Eph. 2:8)

II. The Ego Talk of Flattery
A. Flattery is the act of placing someone in ______ to us by verbally __________ some action, virtue, or aspect of their life.
B. Flattery differs from genuine praise because of its__________.
C. How is flattery used in manipulative ways?
   1. A person might use flattery to get __________.
   2. A person might use flattery to get a ____________ in return.
   3. A person might use flattery to _________ someone into all kinds of schemes.
   4. A person might use flattery to gain _______ and to put others in our _______.
D. What does the Bible say about flattery? (Ps. 29:5; Jude 1:16; Ps. 12:1-3)
E. “Flattery __________ both the receiver and the giver.” (Edmund Burke)
F. The Bible tells us to speak the truth in love and we should try to be as __________ as we can with the truth.
G. One of the things that we might do that can safeguard both the one giving the compliment and the one receiving it, is to form the compliment in a way that gives the _________ to _________.

III. The Ego Talk of Exaggeration
A. Exaggeration is nothing more than _________ about the details to make the information more sensational, interesting, or manipulative.
B. Why do we exaggerate?
   1. We might exaggerate to catch people’s ___________.
   2. We might exaggerate to manipulate someone into _________ what we want them to _______.
   3. We might exaggerate to _________ better about ourselves and to make others _______ better about us.
C. Stretching the truth ___________ it.