

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.

Answer Key: Intro.A. Ego. B. bad, created. C. care. D. Word, Spirit. I.A. social, spiritual. I.C.1. God’s, blessing. I.C.2. control, future. I.C.3. credit, one, due. II.A. debt, commending. II.B. motive. II.C.1. attention. II.C.2. compliment. II.C.3. seduce. II.C.4. favor, debt. II.E. corrupts. II.F. graceful. II.G. glory, God. III.A. lying. III.B.1. attention. III.B.2. doing, do. III.B.3. feel, feel. III.C. destroys.