
“In essence, pride is like a vicious watchdog, ever protecting its master; the almighty self. The more a person is full of self, the more high-minded he will be. The believer who has not allowed the Lord to deal severely with his “self-life” will see all that comes his way through the lens of pride.”

*Steve Gallagher,
Irresistible to God*

“Most of us value the quality in a person which, when communicated to us, says, ‘You are certainly my equal and, in many ways, my better.’”

Anonymous

“Pride intensifies all our other sins because we cannot repent of any of them without first giving up our pride.”

Life Application Bible

How To Kill Relationships & Irritate People: PRIDE

“Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for ‘God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.’ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.” 1 Peter 5:5-7

1. At first glance at this passage, what does it mean to ‘clothe’ yourself with humility? What should that look like in daily life as you encounter conflict, trial, success, disappointment, etc.?
2. What does clothing yourself with humility ‘towards one another’ presuppose about your relationship with God?
3. What situations in your life do you find it hardest to humble yourself? Is it when you know you need to go to God or when you need to go to people? Marriage, your job, at church, on the court, waiting in line or at a stop light.....when is it easiest and hardest for you to practice humility?
4. Matthew 23:12 says that ‘everyone who exalts himself will be humbled and everyone who humbles himself will be exalted. Do you prefer God to humble you or for you to humble yourself?
5. What is your biggest fear in humbling yourself before God? What is your biggest fear in humbling yourself before man? What promises

“It is probably safe to say that humility is the one character quality that will enable us to be all Christ wants us to be. We cannot come to God without it. We cannot love God supremely without it. We cannot be an effective witness for Christ without it. We cannot love and serve our wives without it. We cannot lead in a godly way without it. We cannot enjoy physical intimacy the way God intended without it. We cannot communicate properly without it. We cannot resolve conflict without it. We cannot deal with the sin of others rightly without it. We especially cannot resist sin without it. In short, we must embrace and live out humility in order to truly live and be who God means for us to be.”

Stuart Scott, The Exemplary Husband

of the Word can you begin to believe and fold into your life that will help you humble yourself?

6. Our passage in 1 Peter says that at the proper time, will be exalted, but only after we humble ourselves under the mighty hand of God. In your opinion, what do the Scriptures as a whole point to in regards to being exalted? What does biblical exaltation look like? What do the beatitudes have to do with that?
7. If we are a proud people, will we cast our anxieties on God? Why or why not?
8. How does 2 Chronicles 7:14 and John 15:5 fit into that equation?
9. What does humility look like in the face of temptation? What do you have to admit about yourself in order to avoid temptation? Is it enough to know there is a prowling Devil coming your way? What do you need to do beforehand that requires humility?
10. How aware are you that you can be devoured by ‘a roaring lion’?
11. What does it mean to be opposed by God and what does it mean to be given grace? Is there a time in your life where this was played out? What was the outcome and what preceded this in your life?
12. Looking forward to the next 4 weeks, what does pride have to do with anger, unresolved conflict, sinful words and covetousness? How does pride fan into flame these other sins?

“The Holy One seeks the humble. Nothing has such an attraction for God and such affinity with holiness as a contrite and humble spirit. The reason is evident. There is no law in the natural or the spiritual world simpler than that two bodies cannot occupy the same space at the same time. In man, self has possession and self-will the mastery—there is no room for God. Only to the extent that the new occupant can empty the space of what it was once filled with can it truly take possession. It is impossible for God to dwell or rule when self is on the throne.”

Andrew Murray

The Path to Holiness

“Pride is when sinful human beings aspire to the status and position of God and refuse to acknowledge their dependence upon Him.”

C.J. Mahaney

Humility

13. What should you be doing on a daily basis to set the stage for humility in your life?
14. Peter uses the phrase ‘clothe yourself’. Similarly, Paul uses the phrase ‘put on the Lord Jesus Christ’ as a replacement for making provision for the flesh. Where are you making provision for the flesh, where you should be making a provision for the Spirit, giving a platform for humility to grow in your life?
15. What is one or several situations right now that you know you need to humble yourself? Will you take some moments, as long as it takes, to let the Lord sort out what your responsibility is? Make a list if needed, take the time, then move out, know that God’s grace awaits you with open arms.

“Dear Lord, you see the different types of pride in my life. I acknowledge the fact that they are at work within me. Lord, please help me to overcome each of them. They make me ugly and limit my ability to properly represent you to others. Holy Spirit, I invite you to convict me every time I act or think that way in the future. Lord, I repent of it and I promise that I will do the best I can to quit coming across that way to others. Please root it all out of me. I ask you to humble me and help me to see how little I truly am. Thank you for helping me. Amen. (suggested prayer from Irresistible to God, Steve Gallagher)