



Street Smart

Part 3 - Show a Little Humility

Discussion Guide

In today's culture, humility gets a bad rap. We like others to be humble and kind, but we value independence, self-confidence, and "I can do it" attitudes. God's wisdom is opposed to earthly wisdom. Pride leads to destruction and humility leads to greatness in His spiritual kingdom. Let's look at how to show a little humility.

Jump Start

1. Think of one of your most embarrassing moments, caused by your pride and unwillingness to listen. Share it with your Life Group and laugh about how you personally learned that "pride goes before a fall."
2. **Read [Proverbs 13:18](#)**. Has there ever been a time in your life that you refused to listen to someone's advice, only to find out that they were right all along? What did this teach you about yourself? How did the relationship fare through this experience?
3. **Read [Psalm 19:12-14](#) and [Romans 12:3](#)**. Have you ever done a self-examination of yourself, especially concerning pride? What happens when your natural desire to be liked or appreciated becomes overgrown or inflated? Do you want to be wise and helpful to your friends and family? Or are you more interested in how smart and talented you are perceived to be, and how popular you are?
4. **Read [Romans 12:16](#), [Romans 2:11](#) and [James 2:1-4](#)**. These passages all basically teach the same principle in different ways. Jot it down in your own words. Make private notes of areas where you make distinctions.
5. In [Luke 18:9-14](#), we read a parable about a religious man and a sinner. Has it ever occurred to you that religious people may be even more at risk of pride than others? What types of things are you proud of in your own life? Is it justified pride? Is there any good pride? Or do you have a

self-righteous pride, like the Pharisee, whose sins of the heart were even more despicable than the “sinner’s”?

6. Final Thought: [James 4:6, 8, and 10](#) summarize the main point of this message. What does God want from us? How can we avoid His opposition? How should we humble ourselves? What areas are you struggling with? Do you struggle with being judgmental, showing favoritism, stubbornly refusing to listen, or being unwilling to admit your fault or error? How can you be intentional this week about thinking more highly of others and conquering pride?

Deeper

Proverbs 6:16-19 (ESV)

- 16** There are six things that the Lord hates,
seven that are an abomination to him:
17 haughty eyes, a lying tongue,
and hands that shed innocent blood,
18 a heart that devises wicked plans,
feet that make haste to run to evil,
19 a false witness who breathes out lies,
and one who sows discord among brothers.

This passage is where Christian church leaders developed the idea of the “seven deadly sins.”

7. Look at this passage in different versions (try the Amplified in addition to other contemporary versions) and paraphrase this list of things God hates. Why would pride be at the top of the list?
8. Do some research into Lucifer’s expulsion from heaven. **Read [Isaiah 14:12-15](#)**. Turn on your cross-references and look for other passages dealing with the “original sin.”
9. **Read [Genesis 3:1-7](#)**. Consider the first human sin. What were the roots of it? Several of the “things that God hates” occur in this passage. What are they? Why must God eradicate pride?