

5. What are some of the ways sinful pride is justified in our culture?

6. How can fear and anxiety in your life find its source in sinful pride?

7. If aiming for humility results in a prideful attitude (i.e., I now can take pride in my increased humility), how can you reject pride in your life?

8. How is Jesus the antidote to pride in our lives?

Finding Our Way Back to God (The Book of Esther) - Part

“Two Types of Pride That Will Destroy You”

Esther 5-6

Philippians 2: ³ Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

Psalms 10: ⁴ In his pride the wicked man does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God.

Romans 12: ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another. Do not be proud, but be willing to associate with people of low position. Do not be conceited.

“According to Christian teachers, the essential vice, the utmost evil, is Pride. Unchastity, anger, greed, drunkenness, and all that, are mere flea bites in comparison: it was through Pride that the devil became the devil: Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind. ...It is Pride which has been the chief cause of misery in every nation and every family since the world began.” (C.S. Lewis)

Rooting Out Pride

1. R_____ pride.

- The first type of pride is the _____ of superiority!

Pride turns us into _____.

- The more hidden and deceptive form of pride is masked in _____.

“Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it's thinking of yourself less.” (C.S. Lewis)

2. R_____ pride.

Our culture is _____ in pride.

Pride can also _____ itself in worry, fear and anxiety!

Biblical humility focuses on _____—his power and promise, not on me and my perceived power and work.

“As long as you are proud you cannot know God. A proud man is always looking down on things and people: and, of course, as long as you are looking down you cannot see something that is above you.” (C.S. Lewis)

The more we make humility our _____, the more we're tempted to become proud of our motives.

Proverbs 16: ⁵ The LORD detests all the proud of heart. Be sure of this: They will not go unpunished.

3. S_____ Jesus.

The God of the Bible, King of the universe, Lord of all creation is painted throughout the Bible in stark contrast to the rulers on _____.

Our King came down from his _____ to his people.

He gave his prideful people a _____.

All the anger that God had towards a prideful and self-serving people went to Jesus on the _____.

Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. What are some sneaky ways pride works its way into your life?
3. Read Esther 5-6. What thoughts and feelings did reading this chapter evoke in you?
4. We see the effects of pride in Hamaan's life, but it's easy to think that his pride is extreme. Why do you think C.S. Lewis says pride is "the essential vice" and "the utmost evil"?