

Pride – June 22, 2022

Pride – Shouldn't we be proud of kids, accomplishments? Yes & No.

Pride is slippery slope. It's self-respect & joy / conceit & arrogance; ego & vanity.

There are **7 deadly sins**: (1) pride, (2) envy,
(3) wrath [vengeful anger], (4) gluttony [excessive indulgence],
(5) lust [intense or unbridled desire], (6) sloth [avoiding work], and
(7) greed [selfish & excessive desire for more].

Greek monk wrote "8 evil thoughts" - writing to other monks about how these thoughts could interfere with their spiritual practice.

List of 7 by Pope Gregory; not listed in the Bible, but given indirectly.

7 deadly sins - **Gilligan's Island**: Pride - the Professor; Lust - Ginger;
Wrath (Skipper) ... Gilligan - Sloth.

Prov. 6:16-18 – "There are 6 things the LORD hates, 7 that are detestable to Him: haughty eyes [a proud look], a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that run swiftly to evil, a false witness who gives false testimony, and one who stirs up discord among brothers."

Bible says:

"God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." – **James 4:6**

"All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."- **1 Peter 5:5**

"A person's pride will bring about his downfall, but the humble in spirit will gain honor." – **Prov. 29:23**

Jesus said in **Luke 14:11** – "For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and the one who humbles himself will be exalted."

"Pride goes before destruction, & a haughty spirit before a fall." – **Prov. 16:18**

Why is pride a sin? Definition of Pride:

excessive belief or satisfaction from one's abilities or qualities.

Inordinate self-esteem; an unreasonable conceit of one's own superiority ... which manifests itself in lofty airs, distance, reserve, and often in contempt of others.

Pride slips past "I'm good at this" ... to... "I'm better than everyone."

Pride takes credit for what we've done, not recognizing/thanking God for helping us ... success ... not giving God glory. Anything that dethrones God is sin.

Pride is a focus on Self. Wants praise for Self. Make Self feel good.

"Satan disguises submission to himself under the ruse of personal autonomy. He never asks us to become his servants. Never once did the serpent say to Eve, 'I want to be your Master.' The shift in commitment is never from Christ to evil; it is always from Christ to self. And instead of his will, self-interest now rules and what I want reigns. And that is the essence of sin." - Dennis F. Kinlaw (1922 - 2017)

Pride isn't always easy to spot. It shows up in actions/speech:

Signs Pride is at work in your life:

Pride in our Spiritual Lives:

1. Brag about how NOT materialistic they are
2. Excessively give away nice possessions or money that God gives them
3. Fault finding in others; avoiding conviction in ourselves
4. Superficiality – fight the sin that have an impact on how others see us but make peace w/the ones no one else can see
5. Speak with a different accent or voice about spiritual stuff
6. Rehearse prayers; use grand words and phrases in public prayers
7. Say “I’ll pray for that” – but never do.
8. Think you’re more spiritual/righteous than others --- morally superior
9. Look down on “sinners” ... drug addicts... beggars... homeless... Where there is contempt/irritation w/sins of others – pride is at work.
10. Talk about how much they pray... read Bible... or fasting.

“When you fast, do not look sullen like the hypocrites, for they make their faces unattractive SO THAT people will see them fasting. I tell you the truth, they have their reward.” - Matthew 6:16

“Whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, because they love to pray while standing in synagogues and on street corners SO THAT people can see them. Truly I say to you, they have their reward.” - Matthew 6:5

Pride in Knowledge

1. "Know it all" – always say they already knew that.
2. Brags about humility... will say: "In my humble opinion"
3. Get irritated if someone tries to teach them something (another way)
4. Too smart for formal education or training. "But what could I learn?"
5. Often interrupt people mid-sentence. "I don't mean to interrupt, but..."
6. Finish other people's sentences "I know what you're going to say..."
7. Often try to prove people wrong
8. Get defensive when questioned, corrected, or criticized. - **If you ever get defensive, then pride is at work; it must be dealt with.**
9. Struggle admitting a wrong or saying I'm sorry"
10. Defends their kids & attack anyone who addresses their kid's wrong behavior (because they think it reflects bad on them)
11. Blame everyone else ... have excuses why it isn't their fault
12. Diminish our mistakes. Say things like, "Everybody makes mistakes. Heck, you make mistakes too"

Argumentative - Just have to be right

1. Don't discuss differences to learn, just to show off how much they know
2. "Told you so" ... remind others when they were wrong, you were right
3. Get the last word

Critical - Highlight other's flaws to make their SELF feel better

1. Quick to correct or criticize spouses, kids, bosses, co-workers, etc.
2. Criticize w/no intention of building up or improving the situation
3. Harsh teasing . . . meant only to put down
4. Negative and complain a lot
5. Don't show mercy to others...
6. Mean spirited

Pride of Power

"But after Uzziah became powerful, his pride led to his downfall." **2 Chronicles 26:16**

Controlling - Being obeyed gives their SELF a nice feeling, sense of power

1. Excessively taking care of and shielding their older children

2. Paying the consequences for their kid's irresponsibility
3. Manipulating to keep their adult children close; or control their adult children's marriages
4. Using others & keep them hanging on
5. Throw their wedding ring, threaten divorce, withhold affection or hit
6. Want kids to be perfect so the parent's image isn't tarnished
7. Never want to submit to authority (makes Self feel inferior)
8. Hate being told to do anything
9. Want autonomy to make own decisions, so won't surrender to God.
10. Struggle w/submission; Will submit in little things, but not big things
11. Citizens won't submit to government/kids won't submit to parents/employees won't submit to employers.

Self Reliant – not wanting/needing others

“When I fed them, they were satisfied; when they were satisfied, they became proud; then they forgot me.” - Hosea 13:6

1. Independent to a fault. Won't ask for help.
2. Hate to rely on others. Make excuses “don't want to impose”
3. Think their abilities are superior to others
4. Don't let others make decisions ... or are bothered when a decision is made without them
5. Willing to help others, but not to be helped
6. Rarely say the words “Thank you” to God or others.

“But Hezekiah's heart was proud and he did not respond to the kindness shown him; therefore the LORD's wrath was on him” - **2 Chronicles 32:25** -

“Hezekiah was too proud to show gratitude for what the LORD had done for him” (Good News Trans)

Excessive need for credit, praise or admiration

1. Hungry for accomplishments, have people notice them
2. Lie about events or accomplishments, stretch the truth for attention
3. Take credit for things they didn't do
4. Don't give compliments or credit to others; Hate sharing the spotlight
5. Shoot down or don't share other people's good ideas

Workaholic - believes work gives their SELF more value

“By your great skill in trading you have increased your wealth, but your heart has grown proud because of it.”- **Ezekiel 28:5**

1. People who exploit others to get rich – pride is at work.
2. Think that everybody needs their help
3. Work long hours, trying to do the work of 2-3 people
4. Believe the value of their SELF is based on performance
5. Obsessed with praise for their discipline, productivity & busyness
6. Love the feeling of SELF being praised & built up more than they care about the feelings of others - who don't think they value very much
7. Serve others - or work so much - it hurts family relationships
8. Need to be needed; hungry to be depended on
9. Can't say no or set boundaries
10. Won't ever delegate to others

Grandiosity – feeling superior to others

1. Condescending, disdainful attitude toward others - inferior taste in food, restaurants, sports, movies, etc.
2. Look down at, demeans, belittles, intimidates, or bullies others who have different likes or tastes
3. Have an unrealistic view that their SELF is better than other people
4. Have a strong sense of personal uniqueness or coolness
5. Believe that few people have anything in common with them
6. Believe that they can only be understood by very few and special people
7. Overly materialistic hoping people will think more highly of them
8. Brag about their success ... in a humble sounding way
9. Talk about how they are/were “the best ever” on their team
10. Talk a lot about possessions, accomplishments, positions, etc.
11. Name drop about high-status people they associate with
12. Think certain tasks would lower their image or value of their SELF
13. Think they're above certain tasks
14. Feel entitled to grand or special treatment; offended if not there.

Pride in Hiding- Self-centered, ego-centric, self-absorbed

1. Feel nothing that other people must wait on them (drive slow, no pass)
2. Regularly make others wait on them before a meeting or dinner starts
3. Inconsiderate. Don't consider other people's time
4. Rarely ask questions of others - more interested in talking about SELF
5. Rarely compliment people
6. Overly concerned with others opinions of their SELF
7. Social isolation - afraid of not being liked, being criticized, being rejected
8. Can't laugh at themselves or accept good natured teasing
9. Have a hard time forgiving
10. Quick to be angry
11. Bothered when someone else has success
12. Sabotage other so good things or success won't happen
13. Believe that other people are envious of them

Pride of Appearance

"Your heart was filled with pride because of all your beauty. Your wisdom was corrupted by your love of splendor."- Ezekiel 28:17

1. Feel their appearance gives their SELF more worth
2. Think their beauty makes their SELF superior to others
3. Flaunt their figure/physique so others will praise them
4. Spend excessive time on hair, clothing, weight, body shape to impress
5. Anorexia or bulimia
6. Work hard to avoid the appearance of aging
7. Often post photos or videos of themselves exercising
8. Spend excessive time/\$ to look good while neglecting people, obligations

Things to remember:

1. Don't shoot the messenger. Signs of pride require attention, healing
2. We can't change what we don't acknowledge
3. God is in the transformation business.
4. We all will battle pride. The battle has been won.

[Song of the week](#) – "Lay Down My Pride" – Jeremy Camp