



SMALL GROUPS | CURRICULUM

| SERMON TITLE | DATE |
|--------------------------------|------------|
| Title: Breakthrough Your Pride | May1, 2016 |

Tools: pen, pencils, your notes from the sermon

Definition of Pride: One who refuses to depend on God, and be subject to Him but attributes to self the honour due God.

Pride is a sin all of us have committed. It was the downfall of Satan and Adam and Eve. Pride may be defined as the opposite of humility.

Humility is part of God's character. God is high and great but humbles himself to love, redeem and care for us.

Read: Daniel: 4:1–37.

- List the evidence of the King's pride.

Read: Proverbs16: 5,18-19; 18:12,25-27

1. List what these verses say about pride.
2. How do you know you are walking in pride?
3. What do you do to overcome it?

FOUR WAYS TO OVERCOME MY PRIDE:

1. The Distance Between You and God Daniel 4:1-9

- What was the king focused on?

Read: Psalm 119:1

- a. What is one way you get closer to God?
- b. How have you seen this work in your life?
- c. What are two other ways you can close the gap between you and God?
- d. How do you get rid of sin in order to get closer to God?
- e. How can other believers help you?

2. Dependent on Self Rather Than God v.10 – 18.

- a. Who did the King see as having achieved these things?
- b. Examine your heart by looking at the 50 fruits of pride. (See attached document or go to <http://www.harvestoakville.ca/the-fruits-of-pride/>)
- c. How are you doing in dependence on God or yourself?
- d. Who do you love and depend on the most? How would those closest to you answer this question for you?

3. Refusal to Listen to Warning v. 19–27.

- a. How did the King fail to listen to God's warnings? V.27
- b. How do we break from our sin of pride?

4. Lack of Concern For Consequences v.28–33

- a. How does pride affect others in your life?
- b. How did the King defeat pride in his life according to verse 34 – 37?

MEMORY VERSE:

1Peter 5:6 “Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you”

Men/Women Accountability:

Read: Proverbs 15:33; 29:23; 1Peter 5:6 and James 4:6

1. How are you going to breakthrough from pride?
2. What are your top 2 fruits from the list “50 Fruits of Pride”? Discuss them with your group.
3. What truths of the gospel speak directly against your top 2 fruits?
4. How can this knowledge bring breakthrough?



Fifty Fruits of Pride

1. I tend to be self sufficient in the way I live my life. I don't live with a constant awareness that my every breath is dependent upon the will of God. I tend to think I have enough strength, ability and wisdom to live and manage my life. My practice of the spiritual disciplines is inconsistent and superficial. I don't like to ask others for help.

2. I am often anxious about my life and the future. I tend not to trust God and rarely experience his abiding and transcendent peace in my soul. I have a hard time sleeping at night because of fearful thoughts and burdens I carry.

3. I am overly self-conscious. I tend to replay in my mind how I did, what I said, how I am coming across to others, etc. I am very concerned about what people think of me. I think about these things constantly.

4. I fear man more than God. I am afraid of others and make decisions about what I will say or do based upon this fear. I am afraid to take a stand for things that are right. I am concerned with how people will react to me or perceive my actions or words. I don't often think about God's opinion in a matter and rarely think there could be consequences for disobeying him. I primarily seek the approval of man and not of God.

5. I often feel insecure. I don't want to try new things or step out into uncomfortable situations because I'm afraid I'll fail or look foolish. I am easily embarrassed.

6. I regularly compare myself to others. I am performance oriented. I feel that I have greater worth if I do well.

7. I am self-critical. I tend to be a perfectionist. I can't stand for little things to be wrong because they reflect poorly on me. I have a hard time putting my mistakes behind me.

8. I desire to receive credit and recognition for what I do. I like people to see what I do and let me know that they noticed. I feel hurt or offended when they don't. I am overly concerned about my reputation and hate being misunderstood.

9. I want people to be impressed with me. I like to make my accomplishments known.

10. I tend to be deceptive about myself. I find myself lying to preserve my reputation. I find myself hiding the truth about myself, especially about sins, weaknesses, etc. I don't want people to know who I really am.

11. I am selfishly ambitious. I really want to get ahead. I like having a position or title. I far prefer leading to following.

12. I am overly competitive. I always want to win or come out on top and it bothers me when I don't.

13. I like to be the center of attention and will say or do things to draw attention to myself.

14. I like to talk, especially about myself or persons or things I am involved with. I want people to know what I am doing or thinking. I would rather speak than listen. I have a hard time being succinct.

15. I am self-serving. When asked to do something, I find myself asking, "How will doing this help me, or will I be inconvenienced?"

16. I am not very excited about seeing or making others successful. I tend to feel envious, jealous or critical towards those who are doing well or being honoured.

17. I feel special or superior because of what I have or do. For example:

my house

my neighbourhood

my physical giftings

my spiritual giftings

my intellect or education

being a Christian

my position or job

my car

my salary

my looks

18. I think highly of myself. In relation to others I typically see myself as more mature and more gifted. In most situations, I have more to offer than others even though I may not say so. I don't consider myself average or ordinary.

19. I tend to give myself credit for who I am and what I accomplish. I only occasionally think about or recognize that all that I am or have comes from God.

20. I tend to be self-righteous. I can think that I really have something to offer God. I would never say so, but I think God did well to save me. I seldom think about or recognize my complete depravity and helplessness apart from God. I regularly focus on the sins of others. I don't credit God for any degree of holiness in my life.

21. I feel deserving. I think I deserve what I have. In fact, I think I ought to have more considering how well I have lived or in light of all I have done.

22. I often feel ungrateful. I tend to grumble about what I have or my lot in life.

23. I find myself wallowing in self-pity. I am consumed with how I am treated by God and others. I tend to feel mistreated or misunderstood. I seldom recognize or sympathize with what's going on with others around me because I feel that I have it worse than they do.

24. I can be jealous or envious of others abilities, possessions, positions, or accomplishments. I want to be what others are or want to have what others have. I am envious of what others have thinking that I should have it or deserve it. I find it hard to rejoice with others when they are blessed by God.

25. I am pretty insensitive to others. I feel that some people just aren't worth caring about. I have a hard time showing compassion.

26. I have a know-it-all attitude. I am impressed by my own knowledge. I feel like there isn't much I can learn from other people, especially those less mature than me.

27. I have a hard time listening to ordinary people. I listen better to those I respect or people I want to leave with a good impression. I don't honestly listen when someone else is speaking because I am usually planning what I am going to say next.

28. I like to reveal my own mind. I have an answer for practically every situation. I feel compelled to balance everyone else out.

29. I interrupt people regularly. I don't let people finish what they are saying.

30. I feel compelled to stop people when they start to share something with me I already know.

31. I find it hard to admit it when I don't know something. When someone asks me something I don't know, I will make up an answer rather than admit I don't know.

32. I don't get much out of teaching. I tend to evaluate a speaker rather than my own life. I grumble in my heart about hearing something a second time.

33. I listen to teaching with other people in mind. I constantly think of those folks who need to hear the teaching and wish they were here.

34. I'm not very open to input. I don't pursue correction for my life. I tend to be unteachable and slow to repent when corrected. I don't really see correction as a positive thing. I am offended when people probe the motivations of my heart or seek to adjust me.

35. I have a hard time admitting that I am wrong. I find myself covering up or excusing my sins. It is hard for me to confess my sins to others or to ask for forgiveness.

36. I view correction as an intrusion into my privacy rather than an instrument of God for my welfare. I can't identify anyone who would feel welcome to correct me.

37. I resent people who attempt to correct me. I don't respond with gratefulness and sincere appreciation for their input. Instead I

am tempted to accuse them and dwell on their faults. I get bitter and withdraw.

38. When corrected, I become contentious and argumentative. I don't take people's observations seriously. I minimize and make excuses or give explanations.

39. I am easily angered and offended. I don't like being crossed or disagreed with. I find myself thinking, "I can't believe they did that to me." I often feel wronged.

40. I have "personality conflicts" with others. I have a hard time getting along with certain kinds of people. People regularly tell me that they struggle with me.

41. I am self-willed and stubborn. I have a hard time cooperating with others. I really prefer my own way and often insist on getting it.

42. I am independent and uncommitted. I don't really see why I need other people. I can easily separate myself from others. I don't get much out of the small group meetings.

43. I am unaccountable. I don't ask others to hold me responsible to follow through on my commitments. I don't really need accountability for my words and actions. I think I can take care of myself.

44. I am unsubmitive. I don't like being under the authority of another person. I don't see submission as a good and necessary provision from God for my life. I have a hard time supporting and serving those over me. I don't "look up" to people and I like to be in charge. Other people may need leaders but I don't. It is important that my voice is heard.

45. I lack respect for other people. I don't think very highly of most people. I have a hard time encouraging and honouring others unless they really do something great.

46. I am a slanderer. I find myself either giving or receiving evil reports about others. Often times the things I say or hear are true about other people. I am not concerned about the effect of slander on me because of my maturity level. I think I can handle it. I only share with others the things I really think they need to know. I don't tell all.

47. I am divisive. I tend to resist or resent authority. I don't like other people to give me orders or directions.

48. I like to demean or put others down. I often think people need to be adjusted and put in their place. This includes leaders. Other people need to be more humble and have a "sober" assessment of themselves.

49. I tend to be critical of others. I find myself feeling or talking negatively about people. I subtly feel better about myself when I see how bad someone else is. I find it far easier to evaluate than to encourage someone else.

50. I really appreciate somebody taking the time to put this paper together. It will really be a big help to my friends and family. However, I don't really need this because I think I'm pretty humble already.

