



SUNGAI WAY-SUBANG METHODIST CHURCH



# landmine *of* **PRIDE**

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# Sermons Recap

- Anger, Resentment & Unforgiveness  
(2 weeks ago)
- Lust & Temptation  
(Last week)

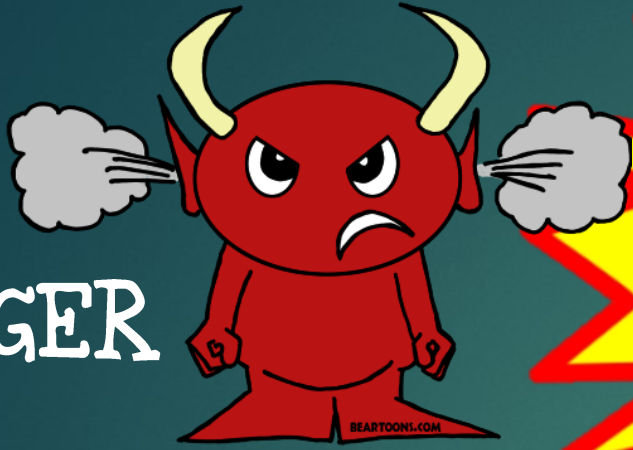


# Pride & Humility (this week)





ANGER



PRIDE



GREED



# The Seven Deadly Sins



LUST



ENVY



SLOTH



GLUTTONY



## Genesis 3:6 (NIV)

When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food (**LUST OF THE FLESH**) and pleasing to the eye (**LUST OF THE EYES**), and also desirable for gaining wisdom (**PRIDE OF LIFE**), she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

## Matthew 4 (NIV)

<sup>3</sup> The tempter came to Him and said, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become bread.” **LUST OF THE FLESH**

<sup>4</sup> Jesus answered, “It is written: ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”



## Matthew 4 (NIV)

<sup>5</sup> Then the devil took Him to the holy city and had Him stand on the highest point of the temple.

<sup>6</sup> “If you are the Son of God,” he said, “throw Yourself down. For it is written: “He will command His angels concerning you, and they will lift You up in their hands, so that You will not strike Your foot against a stone.’ **PRIDE OF LIFE**

<sup>7</sup> Jesus answered him, “It is also written: ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

## Matthew 4 (NIV)

<sup>8</sup> Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor. **LUST OF THE EYES**

<sup>9</sup> “All this I will give You,” he said, “if You will bow down and worship me.”

<sup>10</sup> Jesus said to him, “Away from Me, Satan! For it is written: ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve Him only





The tempter, Satan, the enemy always uses the same formula.



**Lust of the flesh, Lust of the eyes and Pride of life.**



Various people in the Bible fell prey except, of course, our Lord Jesus.



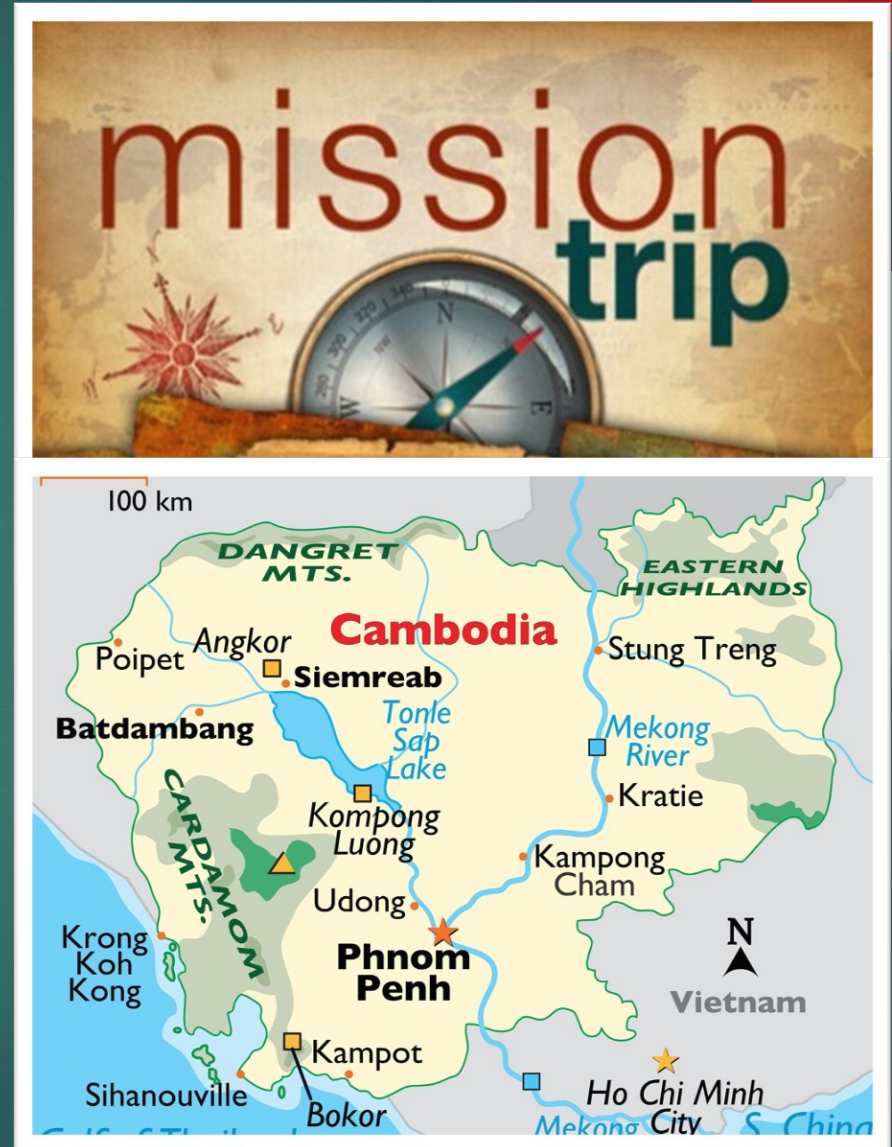
Eve, Achan, Ananias and Sapphria , David & Bathsheba and so on.



Same consequence - **DEATH**

So today we focus on the not so popular topic of **PRIDE**

# Cambodia Story













The landmine is a silent and sneaky killer.  
It maims. It kills  
...and the scary thing is  
you may never even know it's there.



PRIDE IS A SILENT AND SNEAKY KILLER.  
IT STUNTS YOUR SPIRITUAL GROWTH.  
IT KILLS YOUR RELATIONSHIPS...AND

THE SCARY THING IS YOU MAY NEVER  
EVEN KNOW IT'S THERE.



# DANGERS OF PRIDE



Pride kills our relationship with God.



Pride kills our relationships with people



Pride kills our ability to grow



# SYMPTOMS OF PRIDE

- Fear and Anxiety
- A lack of gratitude
- A lack of prayer life
- People Pleasing

TO ACHIEVE THIS,  
THEY BECOME  
PEOPLE WHO HAVE  
ALWAYS...

SOMETHING TO PROVE  
SOMETHING TO HIDE  
SOMETHING TO LOSE



**PRIDE**

**PRIDE & ARROGANCE**

**PRIDE & HUMILITY**

**HUMILITY & BROKENNESS**






**Pride and arrogance** are conspicuous among the rich, the powerful, the successful, the famous, and celebrities of all sorts, and even some religious leaders.

And it is also alive and well in ordinary people, including each of us.

**Yet few of us realize how**

- 1. dangerous it is to our souls and how greatly it**
- 2. hinders our intimacy with God and**
- 3. love for others.**



**Humility**, on the other hand, is often seen as weakness, and few of us know much about it or how or want to pursue it. For the good of our souls, then, we need to gain a clearer understanding of pride and humility and of how to forsake one and embrace the other.



# 4 Groups of Pride

Pride of



Spirituality



Knowledge



Power



Appearance

AS I WENT THRU THE LIST,  
I MUST BE HONEST –  
A FEW PEOPLE CAME TO  
MIND.

BUT AS I WENT ON, THE  
IMAGES SLOWLY MERGE  
AND ON A FEW OCCASIONS  
BECAME A MIRROR.

**I AM GUILTY OF SOME  
OF THE PRIDEFUL  
ELEMENTS**

## Pride of Spirituality

**Asceticism** (ASSETI SEE SUM) - severe self-discipline and avoiding of all forms of indulgence, typically for religious reasons. reject money, pleasure, joy, fame or possessions. Overly frugal

- ☀️ Brag about how NOT materialistic they are
- ☀️ Excessively give away nice possessions or money that God gives them
- ☀️ Tell everyone, "I gave up a high paying career to do this ministry"
- ☀️ Make excuses for the physical blessings in their life, thumb their noses at the wealthy or successful



# Pride of Spirituality

## Super Christians

- ✓ Spiritualize every conversation
- ✓ Speak with a different accent or voice about spiritual stuff
- ✓ Think they're more spiritual or righteous than others around them
- ✓ Feel morally superior; Despise and detest sinners
- ✓ Insist on having certain roles in the church that they're disqualified or not qualified for, just to prove to people that they're spiritual ;

# Pride of Spirituality

## Super Christians

- ☀️ Talk a lot about their spiritual gift of apostle or prophet, but not about the less public ones ;
- ☀️ Talk about how much they pray
- ☀️ Look down on or badmouth Christians or other denominations who believe differently than they do about spiritual gifts ;
- ☀️ Talk about their fasting SO THAT people know they're fasting



# Pride of Spirituality

## Super Christians

- ☀ Rehearse or spruce up their public prayers using different words and phrases that they would never say when praying alone
- ☀ Talk to the people when they say they are praying to God. ie. Give mini-sermonettes, etc.
- ☀ Say, "I'll pray for that" when they absolutely have no intention of praying for it. But it sounds spiritual for sure.

# Pride of Spirituality

## False Humility

- ❖ Don't usually accept compliments, but instead say, "Thank you but no. It was all God" *(If it were all God, it would have been WAY better than you did it)*
- ❖ Say that they're lower and worse than everyone else
- ❖ Tell you that they're humble, "In my humble opinion"



# Pride of Knowledge

## Unteachable

1. Get irritated if someone tries to teach them something
2. Know it all
3. Answer “I know, I know” or “Yeah, I already knew that”
4. Too smart for a formal education or training. “But what could I learn?”



# Pride of Knowledge

## Highly Opinionated

1. Often interrupt people mid-sentence “I don’t mean to interrupt, but...”
2. Finish other people’s sentences “I know what you're going to say. You were going to say...”
3. Often try to prove people wrong ; ALWAYS **SOMETHING TO PROVE**
4. If questioned they say, “Don’t you think I know what I’m doing?”
5. Don’t listen to the ideas or wisdom of those they lead; ALWAYS **SOMETHING TO HIDE**
6. Use big words and then explain them to you..AFRAID **SOMETHING TO LOSE**



# Pride of Knowledge

**Defensive** *when corrected or criticized*

Attack back when questioned or confronted about a mistake or wrong

1. Struggle admitting a wrong
2. Defend their kids and attack anyone who addresses their kid's wrong behavior (because they think it reflects bad on them)
3. Refuse to or are slow to say, "I was wrong. Will you forgive me?"
4. Blame everyone else but themselves
5. Set up excuses in advance so it isn't their fault
6. Lie or make up excuses when corrected or criticized
7. Say things like, "Everybody makes mistakes. Heck, you make mistakes too"

# Pride of Knowledge

## **Argumentative - *Just have to be right***

- Don't discuss differences to learn, just to show off how much they know;
- "Told you so".
- Remind you about when they were right and you were wrong;
- Get the last word.
- Argue strange, hard to defend beliefs or doctrines to impress with their intellect



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

- Quick to correct or criticize spouses, kids, pastors and other leaders ;
- Criticize with no intention of building up or improving the situation
- Harsh teasing to tear down ;
- Negative and complain a lot
- Don't show much mercy ;
- Mean spirited

**PRIDE OF SPIRITUALITY**

**PRIDE OF KNOWLEDGE**

**PRIDE OF POWER**

*-LONG LIST*

# Pride of Power

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

1. Excessively taking care of and shielding their older children
2. Pay the consequences for their kid's irresponsibility
3. Manipulate to keep their adult children close
4. Try to control or sway their adult children's marriages
5. Use women and keep them hanging on
6. Throw their wedding ring, threaten to boycott events, scream, threaten divorce, withhold affection or hit



# Pride of Power

**Legalistic** - Control through excessive rules - their SELF feels really nice when they are obeyed

1. Don't want kids to rebel mostly so that the parent's SELF or Image isn't tarnished
2. Must have the appearance of spirituality in strict dress codes and grooming
3. King James Version is the only version you can read (huge red flag)
4. Hold to a few chosen Old Testament laws
5. No movies with magic in them, no alcohol, cigars, dancing, playing cards, secular music, tattoos, piercings, no Halloween and absolutely no work on Sundays (except for pastors and church staff, of course)

# Pride of Power

## Won't submit -

It makes their SELF falsely feel inferior if they have a positional leader, though it has nothing to do with wisdom, knowledge or ability.

1. Want the autonomy to decide how to live their life, so won't submit or surrender God

*“God opposes the proud, but He gives grace to the humble. So submit to God. But resist the devil and he will flee from you.*

*Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.” James 4:5-8*

2. Hate being told to do anything

3. Will submit in the little things, but not in the big things

4. Church members won't submit to church leaders; Citizens won't submit to government ; Wives won't submit to husbands ; Children won't submit to parents; Employees won't submit to employers.



# Pride of Power

## Self Reliant

- Don't want or think they need guidance, help or wisdom from God or man.
- **“When they were fed, they became satisfied; when they were satisfied, they became proud; as a result, they forgot Me!” Hosea 13:6**

# Pride of Power

## Independence

- ❖ Fear or worry a lot because they depend on their own abilities;
- ❖ Hate to rely on others;
- ❖ Think their abilities are superior to others
- ❖ Don't let others make decisions;
- ❖ Are bothered when a decision is made without them ;
- ❖ Don't see much need for prayer
- ❖ Willing to help, but not be helped;
- ❖ Willing to financially support, but can't ask for support ;
- ❖ Rarely say the words "Thank you" to God or man

***“But Hezekiah was ungrateful; he had a proud attitude, provoking God to be angry at him...” 2 Chronicles 32:25***



# Pride of Power

## Excessive need for credit, praise or admiration

1. Hungry to be made mention of for accomplishments, service or selflessness
2. Lie about events or accomplishments, way beyond embellishing a story to make it fun ;Lie to take credit for things they didn't do
3. Don't give compliments or credit to whom it is due ; Hate sharing the spotlight
4. Shoot down or don't share other people's good ideas

# Pride of Power

## Importance –

They feel that the value of their SELF grows with accomplishments, status, wealth or success.

*“By your great skill in trade you have increased your wealth, and your heart is proud because of your wealth.” Ezekiel 28:5*

1. People who exploit others to get rich i.e. Health and wealth televangelists, those who prey on the elderly's money etc.
2. Think their worth to God is based on their sacrifices of time, family or money
3. Think that everybody needs their help



# Pride of Power

## Workaholic

- believes work gives their SELF more worth

1. Believe that the value of their SELF is based on performance
2. Obsessed with praise for their discipline, schedule, productivity or busyness
3. Work long hours doing work of 2 - 3 people. Often called a Workhorse or a Machine ; Serve or work so much that it hurts their family relationships
4. Volunteers for everything ; Hungry to be depended on
5. Can't say no; People pleaser; Can't set boundaries
6. Addicted to power and control; Don't delegate much

# Pride of Power

## Grandiosity –

**Think they are superior to the common man,**

1. Condescending and disdainful attitude toward people because of their tastes being inferior to theirs in food, restaurants, sports, movies and other likes and dislikes;
2. Look down their noses, demeans, belittles, intimidates, bullies others who's likes or dislikes differ from their own superior ones ;
3. Have an unrealistic sense of, and sustained view of, their own SELF as better than other people ;
4. Have a strong sense of personal uniqueness or coolness ;
5. Believe that few people have anything in common with their SELF;
6. Believe that their SELF can only be understood by very few and special people



# Pride of Power

## Boastful and arrogant

Skillfully brag about their successful ministry, in a humble sounding way ; Hint around at their success ;

Claim that they're a genius or one of the best ever or one of the best on their team ;

Talk a lot about their importance, status, accomplishments, possessions, education, title, position, credentials or financial status ;

Name drop the high-status people they associate with

1. Surround themselves with good looking or successful people ; Think certain tasks would lower their image or value of their SELF
2. Think they're above certain tasks; Feel entitled to high treatment
3. Feel superior to or are prejudiced towards less wealthy, refined, educated or less successful people or those from a different country or culture

# Pride of Power

## Inconvenience others

- the world revolves around their SELF. Self-centered, ego-centric, self-absorbed

1. Feel powerful when people have to wait on them. Regularly make everyone wait on them to get to the meeting so they can start
2. Inconsiderate. Don't consider other people's time



# Pride of Power

## Not interested in other people

- Rarely ask questions of others because they're more interested in their SELF than in the SELF of others ;
- Dominate conversations talking about their SELF thinking or how much they know SO THAT we're impressed with their SELF ;
- Rarely compliment people
- Wait to be served instead of serve ;
- Neglect others
- Not generous ;
- Abandon their family to pursue their own SELF feeling good

# Pride of Power

## Low SELF-esteem or SELF-worth -

- Constantly thinking of their SELF and what others think about it
- Feel inferior;
- Think they're not worthy of a good spouse or job
- SELF-loathing;
- Believe that people don't like them
- Avoid successful or attractive people;
- Put their SELF down so that others affirm and build them up;  
Often say that they're ugly
- Self-conscious for lack of education, beauty, social or economic status
- Don't share their shortcomings or needs



# Pride of Power

## Shyness

**this isn't about introvert or extrovert**

1. Overly concerned with others' opinions of their SELF
2. Social isolation ; Are afraid of not being liked;  
Are afraid of being criticized
3. Are afraid of being rejected again;  
Are afraid of embarrassing themselves

# Pride of Power

## Highly Sensitive ;

Read into innocent remarks as demeaning, threatening or critical

1. Can't laugh at themselves when they do something funny; Can't accept good natured teasing ;  
Have a hard time forgiving
2. Are offended when their idea, ability or motive is questioned ; Quick to be angry




# Pride of Power


## Envious –

think that when others have things they don't, it makes their SELF look bad.

1. Constantly compare themselves to others ;  
Bothered when someone equal to them has success;  
Wants other people's status symbols to make their SELF look better
2. Sabotage those close to them so good things or success won't happen ;  
Believe other people are envious of them



Pride of spirituality  
Pride of knowledge  
Pride of power



**Pride of Appearance**



# Pride of Appearance

**Try really hard to impress people with their looks or physique -  
Synonyms - Narcissistic, SELF-love, Conceited,  
SELF-glorification, Egotistic, SELF-worship.**

- Feel their appearance gives their SELF more worth
- Think their beauty makes their SELF superior to others
- Flaunt their figure/physique so others will praise them
- Spend excessive time on hair, clothing, weight, body shape to impress
- Anorexia or bulimia
- Work hard to avoid the appearance of aging
- Often post photos or videos of themselves exercising
- Spend excessive time for their SELF to look good while neglecting family

# Pride of Appearance

## Signs of Pride

- If you only saw your SELF in a couple of places on this list, then you just have a little bit of cancer.
- You need to be desperate for treatment.
- Everyone is infected with Pride.
- Early INTERVENTION, ok?



# Consequences of Pride



**Pride kills your relationship with God.**



**Pride kills your ability to grow**



**Pride can kill our relationships with people.**

# Consequences of Pride

- **Pride kills your relationship with God.**
- **Pride kills your ability to grow**
- **Pride can kill our relationships with people.**

***Pride is a silent and sneaky killer.  
It kills your spiritual growth.  
It kills your relationships - both vertical  
and horizontal relationships...  
and the scary thing is you may never  
even know it's there.***

- **Symptoms of pride**
- **Consequences of pride**
- **Remedy for Pride**  
**HOW TO**  
**OVERCOME PRIDE**

# How to Overcome Pride

*“The sacrifices God desires are a humble spirit -  
O God, a humble and repentant heart You will not reject.”*

**Psalm 51:17**

God is not after our perfect behavior. He is after a humble spirit and a contrite heart. the word “contrite” meant “repentant or remorseful”.

So should we question ourselves all the time, “Is what I’m about to say or what I just said, prideful? Because we really don’t want to be prideful, even though we still act pridefully. But a lot less.

This is exactly what God wants from us.

**A humble spirit and a contrite heart.**

**HOW?**



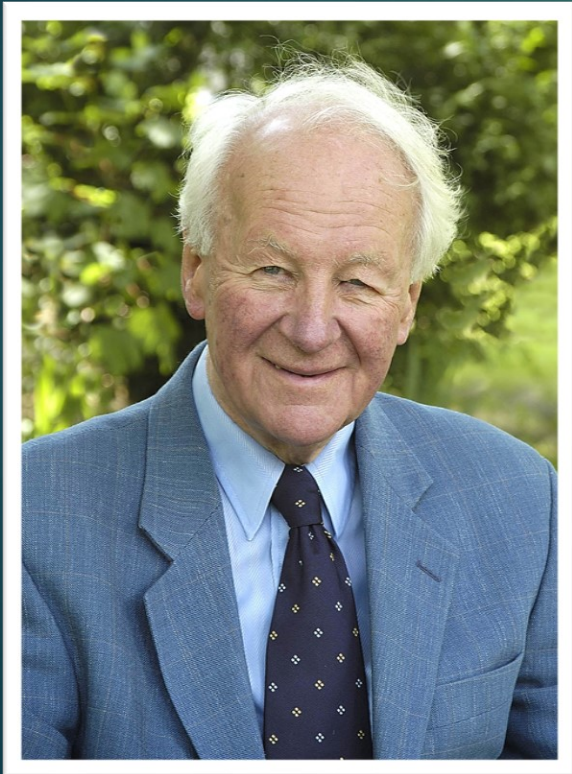
# How to Overcome Pride

"For thus says the High and Lofty One  
Who inhabits eternity, whose name is Holy:  
'I dwell in the high and holy place,  
with him who has a contrite and humble spirit,  
To revive the spirit of the humble,  
And to revive the heart of the contrite ones.'"  
– Isaiah 57:15 (NKJV)

HOW?

# Humility is the key

- to **defeating** this silent killer
- to **detecting** this landmine in our lives.



*“Pride is your greatest enemy,  
humility is your greatest friend.”*

John R.W. Stott

**HOW TO DEVELOP TRUE HUMILITY...**



1. To develop true humility,  
always keep God's grace in view

*Romans 11:32 (NIV)*

*For God has bound everyone over to disobedience  
so that He may have mercy on them all.*

If we are saved, it is because God was gracious to us.  
It was not a reward for our good behavior!



## 2. To develop true humility, work on going LOWER, not higher.

*Philippians 2:3 (NIV)*

*Do nothing out of selfish ambition  
or vain conceit.*

*Rather, in humility value others  
above yourselves,*

**Eg. of water flowing down an incline.  
Which part gets more power?**



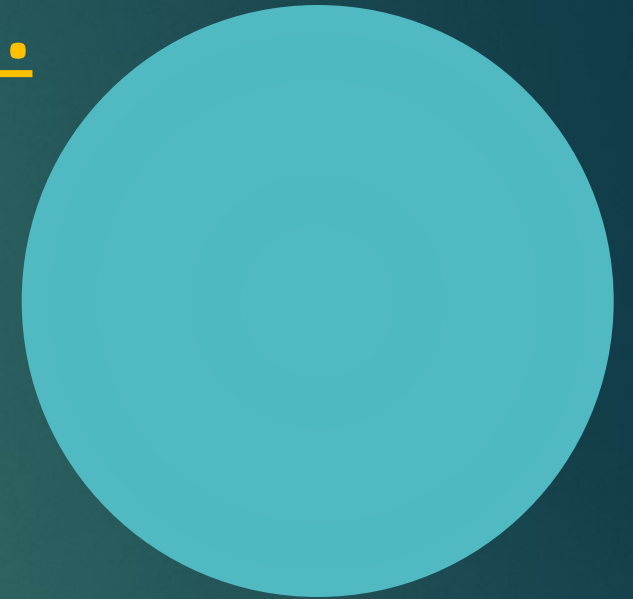
**3. To develop true humility,  
remember that all that you have,  
including your faith, comes from God.**

*1 Corinthians 12:4-6 (NKJV)*



*<sup>4</sup> There are different kinds of gifts,  
but the same Spirit distributes them.*

*<sup>5</sup> There are different kinds of service,  
but the same Lord.*

*<sup>6</sup> There are different kinds of working,  
but in all of them and in everyone  
it is the same God at work.*







Whether we have the gifts and faith to launch and sustain a worldwide ministry, or whether we exercise our gifts and faith on a small, local scale, keep in mind that **everything we are and we have comes from God**, according to His sovereign purpose

## Thus to develop true humility,

1. Keep God's grace always in view.
2. Work on going lower, not higher, in your estimate of yourself.
3. Remember that all that you have, including your faith, comes from God and must be exercised as unto Him.  
Finally,....

4. To develop true humility, determine what God has given you to do and seek to use it for His glory, trusting Him for the results.



## **2 Corinthians 3:5 (NIV)**

***It is not that we think we are qualified to do anything on our own. Our qualification comes from God.***

**Ask God for results that are disproportionately greater than human explanation can provide.**

**Keep in mind Paul's words**

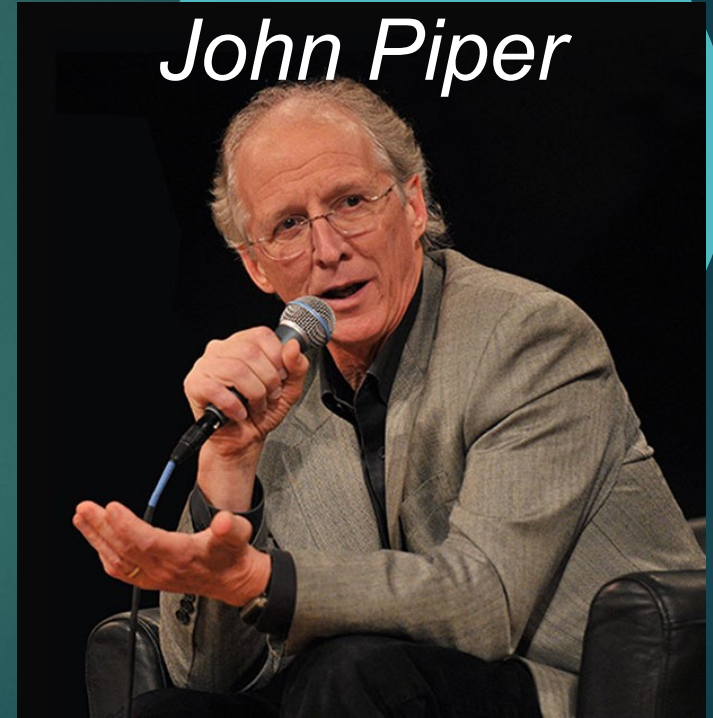
## **2 Corinthians. 3:5 (NASB)**

***“Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God.”***

*... the remedy for pride is unwavering  
faith in God's sovereign future grace.*

*then you have*  
**NOTHING TO PROVE**  
**NOTHING TO HIDE**  
**NOTHING TO LOSE**

*John Piper*



# HUMILITY & BROKENNESS

if we humble ourselves and pray, God will **listen to our prayers** and heal our land. ( 2 Chronicles 7:14).

- But as we humble ourselves and are willing to be broken (denying ourselves) , we are able to **enjoy the favor of God**
- Humility and brokenness go hand in hand.  
Brokenness is a result of our **continuous relationship and fellowship with God** in all humility and contriteness.
- Humility and brokenness also **adds to our power in prayer.**  
Humility is the choice of our will. Jesus humbled himself and became nothing (Phil 2:7-8).
- True humility and brokenness **produces the fear of God.** (*WISDOM*)
- If we have not gone through the phase of brokenness, we tend to react too quickly to adverse circumstances



# Example of all Examples

## Philippians 2 *(NLT)*

<sup>3</sup> Don't be selfish; don't try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves.

<sup>4</sup> Don't look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too.

*(NIV)*


<sup>5</sup> In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: <sup>6</sup> Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to His own advantage; <sup>7</sup> rather, He made Himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. <sup>8</sup> And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to death - even death on a cross!

The power of the Holy Spirit will gradually increase as we go through the experience of wilderness or brokenness in our life..... and

PRIDE, my friends, will have no place in us if the HOLY SPIRIT , the Spirit of HUMILITY is in residence.

Brokenness is the transformation that happens in our lives where our **old habits and natures** are changed

**PRIDE**



**Brokenness** - necessary for removing  
bubbles, forming, moulding, firing.

If you're broken, you have  
nothing to prove,  
nothing to hide,  
nothing to lose



# Summary

- PRIDE - the silent sneaky KILLER
- 4 Groups of PRIDE
- PRIDE & ARROGANCE
- HOW TO OVERCOME PRIDE & ARROGANCE
- HUMILITY
- HUMILITY & BROKENNESS

3 Characteristics of the Church:

**AUTHENTICITY**  
**BROKENNESS**  
**COURAGE**

*Philip Lyn*

