

PRIDE

Objective

Identify the causes of pride and ways to overcome it.

Theme Verse

“I will halt the arrogance of the proud, and will lay low the haughtiness of the terrible”
(Isaiah 13:11)

References

- † Daniel 4:27-30
- † Proverbs 8:13, 16:5, 11:2, 27:2

Lesson Guidelines

Pride is an overemphasis on ourselves.

1. Why does God hate Pride?

- † Characteristic of Satan
- † Brings dishonor to a person's life
- † Presents a stumbling block
- † Deceptive

2. Causes of Pride

- † Self-centeredness
- † Cover up for feelings of inadequacy
- † Placed in a position above your level or ability
- † Belief in all praise
- † Failure to recognize God as source of everything

3. Consequences of Pride

- † Hinders relationship with God
- † Hinders relationship with others
- † Blocks God's blessings
- † Hinders effectiveness as a leader
- † Favoritism shown towards other people who build your ego
- † Foolish mistakes
- † Shuts down work by the Holy Spirit
- † Results in lack of prayer
- † Prevents God from using you to His service
- † Loss of reward because of wrong motive

4. Evidence of Pride

- † Desire to be number one
- † Must be center of attention
- † Dressing to draw attention
- † Ignoring less fortunate people

- † Taking credit for others' work
- † Difficulty to be pleased with others' success
- † Attitude of self-sufficiency
- † Difficulty in dealing with criticism

5. How to deal with Pride

- † Recognize it
- † Honestly identify areas of pride
- † Confess and repent of each area
- † Continually be on the alert
- † Serve someone else
- † Do something in secret for someone
- † Frequently recall God's blessings
- † Stop comparing yourself to others
- † Live by **Proverb 27:2** "Let another man praise you, and not your own mouth; A stranger, and not your own lips"
- † Adversity, when it comes, also gives a blow to one's pride

Conclusion

Pride was the reason behind the fall of many kingdoms and kings in the Old Testament. It is the most hated sin by God and it is one of the reasons why Adam and Eve were driven out of paradise for they trusted the devil and wanted to become like God.

Workshops/Discussion:

Form two groups to discuss the following points:

- † The fine line between pride and a high self esteem
- † The difference between self pride and pride in achievements