

James - Practical Living

9 - L'eggo My Ego!

09:55 am **5 Min. Count Down - VIDEO**

10:00 am ****LIVE Worship –**

10:25 am ****LIVE In House Welcome –**

WELCOME to The Peak CC

Welcome our Church Online Platform –

We are so glad you could join us as we worship the Lord & expound on His Word.

If this is your 1st time or perhaps you've been with us before but haven't engaged... Please fill out

***Online Connect Card * -> RightNow Media**

10:30 AM ****Announcements Video** - Tithing

10:32am LIVE SHOT – Welcome - Pastor *Self Intro* -

NEXT-GEN: 9am Sundays @ Balcony -

Sunday School: 1st things 1st 9am Sundays 2nd floor.

Life Groups Home Groups 7pm Mon Nights - 7/3/2023 - Sam Awuku

Men's Fellowship 8:30 am 1st & 3rd Saturday

True North Youth Ranch - HAY DRIVE - Program Thursday

VIDEO - Out of Many ONE / 4th of July worshiphouse media

VIDEO - Sermon Bump / Intro *The Book of James

What is pride in person?

Oxford defines it as "*the quality of having an excessively high opinion of oneself or one's own importance.*" This may be related to one's own abilities or achievements, positive characteristics of friends or family, or one's country.

Biblical Definition of Pride

It is, "self-respect or improper and excessive self-esteem known as conceit or arrogance (gotquestions.org)." Pride can be defined as elevating one's opinions and thoughts above God`s authoritative Word.

Last week the Message Title was "Up Down Wisdom" - * App Plug - notes

Mentioned 1 John 2: 15- 17

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16 *For all that is in the world—the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life*—is not of the Father but is of the world. 17 And

the world is passing away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever.

Tactic used in the Garden....

Ge 3:6 So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate.

fast forward... someone else to stumble.... all those years & decades... and STILL the same tactics.

Luke 4:1-8 NKJV

Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit [a]into the wilderness, 2 being [b]tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry.

3 And the devil said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.” * Lust of Flesh

4 But Jesus answered him, saying, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.’ ”

5 Then the devil, taking Him up on a high mountain, *showed Him all the kingdoms* of the world in a moment of time. *Lust of Eyes **6** And the devil said to Him, “All this authority I will give You, and their glory; for this has been delivered to me, and I give it to whomever I wish. **7** Therefore, if You will worship before me, all will be Yours.”

8 And Jesus answered and said to him, “Get behind Me, Satan! For it is written, ‘You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.’ ”

9 Then he brought Him to Jerusalem, set Him on the pinnacle of the temple, and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, throw Yourself down from here. **10** For it is written:

‘He shall give His angels charge over you,
To keep you,’

11 and,

‘In their hands they shall bear you up,
Lest you dash your foot against a stone.’ ” *Pride of LIFE

12 And Jesus answered and said to him, “It has been said, ‘You shall not tempt the Lord your God.’ ”

13 Now when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from Him *until an opportune time*.

POINT -> he Doesn't quit... Jesus is **STILL** on his radar.... & so are we...

1 Peter 5:8-9 NKJV

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil *walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour*. **9** Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

YOU ARE NOT ALONE

As we learn to **LIVE** this out **TOGETHER** How many know there is strength in numbers? What we can't do alone, **WE CAN DO** together...

As we unite & form communities that are Gospel Centered. Yacob reminds us this morning that as we do this.... **WE “THE CHURCH” & “US”** this church family will have conflicts & fights within ourselves...

James 4: 1-6 NKJV

Where do wars and fights come from among you? *Do they not come from your desires for pleasure that war in your members?* 2 You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. 3 You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures. 4 Adulterers and adulteresses! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Whoever therefore wants to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. 5 Or do you think that the Scripture says in vain, “The Spirit who dwells in us yearns jealously”? 6 But He gives more grace. Therefore He says:

“God resists the proud,
But gives grace to the humble.”

Opening Prayer

Just like a great preacher he addresses his audience posing a question that will certainly build tension.,,, It brings attention to a certain contention.

James 4:1a NLT

What is causing the quarrels and fights among you?

& then appropriately he answers his own rhetorical question... & presses in a little deeper. giving us today this valuable insight to help navigate life.

Jas 4:1b NLT

Don't they come from the evil desires at war within you?

Jacob points out a very obvious & theological truth... We are warring within OURSELVES...

Paul wrote to the Galatians.. 5:16–17

I say then: Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. 17 For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish.

Peter wrote 1 Peter 2:11

Beloved, I beg you as sojourners and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts which war against the soul,

Selfishness, Self-Centeredness, Ego, & PRIDE

2 You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous of what others have, but you can't get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them.

Is he literally saying that they are KILLING each other over selfish ambitions??

Jacob is most likely speaking metaphorically about having extreme anger & hate towards each other. In the Greek, this term could reflect a person's tendency towards anger; such a person is on the verge of murder

Yet you don't have what you want because you don't ask God for it. 3 And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong— You ask amiss, – you want only what will give you pleasure.

There's that Pride & Ego again

L'eggo My Ego!

Unsatisfied envy leads to fighting and quarreling.

He call these church members ADULTEROUS referring to their unfaithfulness to God

Breaking their vow to serve Him alone, they've turned to idols. Building up that Ego,.... that pride.

They lose sight of the Light of the Kingdom, staring at the LED's of the world.

But the Scriptures don't say in vain

Pr 3:34

**Surely He scorns the scornful,
But gives grace to the humble.**

**God resists the proud,
But gives grace to the humble.”**

So what's the answer? How do we defeat the stealth of Pride & the arrogance of our Ego's?

Humility Cures Worldliness

James 4:7–10 NKJV

Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. 8 *Draw near to God and He will draw near to you*. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. 9 Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. 10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

Jacob encourages Christians to embrace an attitude of humility and repentance.

Draw near to God Collectively... as a Broken Church needing healing... DO NOT FORSAKE the congregating of the brethren...

Cleanse your hands: The Greek term used here, *cheir*, figuratively represents a person's deeds (cp Psa 24:4; Isa 1:15–16).

The command to cleanse them indicates that they were defiled with sin and required purification

2 Corin 7:1 NKJV

Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.

The Beauty of the Gospel, that we can PUT ON CHRIST..

Humility

The Bible calls that people offer an honest appraisal of themselves; or as Paul says, we ought “not to think more highly of ourselves than what one ought to think” (Rom 12:3).

Pride, especially the spiritual kind, can prevent people from being used by God. When people begin to be used by God, it is very easy for them to think of themselves too highly. Yet the New Testament itself repeatedly emphasizes that God uses the unified body of Christian believers at work in the world, as a group, not just as individuals (1 Cor 12).

Have you taken that personal assessment? How’s your EGO?

If you have a hard time measuring your ego, it may be because it’s getting in the way...

instead of measuring your ego.... let's measure your humility...

**How are you doing w/ loving the less fortunate? those in need? emotionally broken? suffering with addictions? those who have offended? hurt? slandered your name?
ANGER?**

Have you been able to express God's UNCONDITIONAL LOVE to any of these??

Ephesians 5:14

14 Therefore He says:

**“Awake, you who sleep,
Arise from the dead,
And Christ will give you light.”**

CALL TO ACTION

The Lord says draw near unto Him... & He'll draw near unto you... It's up to YOU to make that move... Are you ready to be set free?

Would you give me an opportunity to pray for you right now? This altar is open.. for you..

Closing Prayer

**“The Lord bless you and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine upon you,
And be gracious to you,
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you,
And give you peace.”**

I bless you in the Name of the Father, & of the SON, & of the Holy Spirit... Amen!!

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), 1 Jn 2:15–17.

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ge 3:6.

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), 1 Pe 5:8–9.

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Jas 4:1–10.

Tyndale House Publishers, Holy Bible: New Living Translation (Carol Stream, IL: Tyndale House Publishers, 2015), Jas 4:1-10

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Ga 5:16–17.

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), 1 Pe 2:11.

John D. Barry et al., Faithlife Study Bible (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2012, 2016), Jas 4:2.

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), Pr 3:34.

The New King James Version (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 1982), 2 Co 7:1.

John D. Barry et al., Faithlife Study Bible (Bellingham, WA: Lexham Press, 2012, 2016).