

5.5.2024

PEOPLING

Dealing with Pride

*Love is patient,
Love is kind.
It does not envy,
it **does not boast**,
it **is not proud**.
1 Corinthians 13:4 (NIV)*

The Poison of Pride

1. Pride causes personal blind spots.

“You hypocrite! First take the log out of your own eye, and then you will be able to see clearly to take the speck out of your brother’s eye.” Matthew 7:5 (GNT)

“Do you see a person wise in their own eyes? There is more hope for a fool than for them.” Proverbs 26:12 (NIV)

2. Pride creates conflict.

“Pride leads to conflict; those who take advice are wise.” Proverbs 13:10 (NLT)

“We must not be proud or make trouble with each other or be jealous of each other.” Galatians 5:26 (NCV)

3. Pride inhibits deep friendship.

“But if we walk in the light, as He [Jesus] is in the light, we have fellowship one with another...” 1 John 1:7 (NIV)

“One’s pride will bring him low, but he who is lowly in spirit will obtain honor.” Proverbs 29:23 (ESV)

4. Pride prevents reconciliation.

“Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed...” James 5:16 (ESV)

“If it is possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.” Romans 12:18 (NIV)

The Antidote for Pride

1. Rest (take comfort) in God's love.

“And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep His love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God.” Ephesians 3:18-19 (NLT)

2. Remember, you're not perfect, either.

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.” Romans 3:23 (NIV)

“Who can say ‘I have kept my heart pure. I am clean and without sin?’” Proverbs 20:9 (NIV)

Keep the Conversation Going...

1. What are some ways pride shows up negatively your life? How has pride contributed to conflict in your life?
2. The Bible speaks of pride in both a good way (1 Corinthians 1:31) and a bad way (Proverbs 8:13; 16:5). How can you discern which kind of pride you are exhibiting?
3. Read Proverbs 6:16-17, Proverbs 16:5, Psalm 10:4 and Isaiah 10:12. Why is human pride (the bad kind) so offensive to God?