

## Small Group Guide: Turning Pride into Praise

### Daniel 4

#### Key Takeaways:

1. God is the ultimate hero who turns our pride into praise.
2. Pride separates us from God's glory, grace, and goodness.
3. God's confrontation of our pride is an act of mercy, not judgment.
4. Repentance reduces pride and nurtures praise.
5. Jesus exemplifies true humility in contrast to human pride.

#### Discussion Questions:

1. The sermon defines a hero as "someone who goes above and beyond to use what they have for the benefit of someone else who may or may not deserve the effort." How does this definition apply to God in your life?
2. Nebuchadnezzar's pride was evident in his actions and words. In what ways do you see pride manifesting in your own life?
3. The pastor states that "pride takes what is God's and attempts to own it as our own." Can you share an example of when you've struggled with this in your own life?
4. The sermon contrasts Nebuchadnezzar's pride with Jesus' humility (Philippians 2:5-8). How does Jesus' example inspire you to approach your own achievements and status?
5. What does it mean to you that God reveals our pride through Christ "in order to free us"?
6. How can we cultivate a habit of repentance that leads to genuine praise?

#### Practical Applications:

1. **Pride Check:** Identify one area in your life where pride might be an issue. Pray specifically about this area, asking God for humility and guidance.
2. **Serve Others:** Choose one way to serve someone else this week without expecting recognition or reward.
3. **Scripture Meditation:** Spend time meditating on Philippians 2:5-11, reflecting on Christ's humility and how it applies to your life.
4. **Accountability:** Share with a trusted friend or group member about your struggle with pride and ask them to pray for you and hold you accountable.
5. **Praise Practice:** Start and end each day this week with a brief time of praise, focusing on God's character rather than your circumstances or accomplishments.