

The Potter's Christian Life Center

SERMON NOTES
with Pastor Greg Formey



Kill Pride Before It Kills You - Part 3

Philippians 2:5-8
Sunday, July 28, 2019

“Adopt the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus, who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be exploited. / Instead he emptied himself by assuming the form of a servant, taking on the likeness of humanity. And when he had come as a man, / he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death – even to death on a cross.”

There are a number of things you must do to kill pride within you. In this message we will identify three more of them:

- 1. Understand who you really are;**
- 2. See others as more important than you;**
- 3. Give God the glory, not yourself.**

UNDERSTAND WHO YOU REALLY ARE

What you deserve is infinitely worse than what you have been given. It is only because God loves you that He generously gives you mercy and grace.

Listen to what **Ephesians 2:1-3** says about what you were before Jesus came into your life:

“¹As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ²in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. ³All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath.” NIV

We were helpless and hopeless, living according to the world, following Satan, and living to satisfy our own desires. But, our hearts were changed. God made us alive so that He could display the riches of His grace in us. **This leaves no room for pride!**

Ephesians 2:10

“For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” NIV

You never surprise God when you do good. He planned it. He gets the glory!
What do you have to be prideful about?

1 Peter 5:5b,6

^{5b}All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.” ⁶Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. NIV

SEE OTHERS AS MORE IMPORTANT

Christ set the ultimate example of humility. The Bible commands us to follow his example. Paul says this in **Philippians 2:5-8**,

“Adopt the same attitude as that of Christ Jesus, who, existing in the form of God, did not consider equality with God as something to be exploited. Instead he emptied himself by assuming the form of a servant, taking on the likeness of humanity. And when he had come as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death – even to death on a cross.”

Jesus is equal with God, but he took on our likeness. He humbled himself by being obedient even unto death. Do we have that same level of obedience? Can you cry out “not my will, but yours be done,” as Christ did?

If you can remind yourself just how much Jesus humbled himself, you can be encouraged to pursue it for yourself.

This is the command that Paul gave in **Philippians 2:10**, **“Do nothing out of selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility consider others as more important than yourselves.”**

No one is more valuable than anyone else. You don't deserve more grace than someone else. That is opposite to the idea of grace; it is given to those who don't deserve it.

GLORIFY GOD WITH YOUR ABILITIES

You should not be constantly thinking about what people think of you. Do not keep dwelling on the compliments you have received. What God says about you is what really matters.

Galatians 1:10

“For am I now trying to persuade people, or God? Or am I still trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.”

The best way to stay humble is to ask yourself, “How can I best glorify God using the gifts that people say that I have?”

Recognize that your ability is from God. God is more willing to use a humble person than a prideful one who has several abilities.

How often do you go out of your way to serve your brothers and sisters a make them look good? This is the way to dissolve pride in your life.