

# SEVEN DEADLY SINS

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

## WEEK 8: PRIDE

### Read the Text

#### Philippians 2:1-8

1 So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, 2 complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. 3 Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4 Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. 5 Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,[a] 6 who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,[b] 7 but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant,[c] being born in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

### Main Point

Pride is a unique sin in that it often hides in all our other sins. We all struggle with it to some degree and its only antidote is humility. How can we pursue humility though? ***Humility starts with receiving the good things of God.*** This is where we experience gratitude for the life God has given us instead of giving into entitlement where we chase after something different.

Pride is a form of self-absorption. This passage reminds us that if we want to combat our pride, ***we are to see others as greater than ourselves.*** This is where we are so focused on the

goodness of God and serving others that we let go of our own self-focus more and more.

Humility goes against so much of our culture. In a culture of self-promotion, ***we are called to not build up our own image, but to be shaped by His image.*** Our pride tries to take us away from His image, but He is always calling us back. And that's where our hope lies. Even when we stumble and give in to our sinfulness, Jesus is always there to remind us of who He is and who He has called us to be.

### **Reflect Together**

- 1. *Who is God?***: How does God show humility? Are there examples from Jesus' life that specifically resonate with you?
- 2. *What has He done?***: God wants us to conform to His image, but culture often pulls us in the direction of the world. Where in your life has God done a work in you to conform you more to His image? Where do you feel the temptation to conform more to the world?
- 3. *Who are you?***: Where do you find yourself struggling with pride? Is there a specific thing that stirs up pride in your heart? What do you think is going on there?
- 4. *What are you to do?***: What is a next step you could take to explore pride in your life and accept your limitations? How do you think God is inviting you to draw closer to Him in this? Is there a specific act of humility you could pursue?

### **Abide Together**

As an MC, pray together about what was revealed during this discussion. Pray that the Spirit would reveal to you where you are succumbing to pride and what next step He would have you take.

### **Mission Together**

Is there a specific act of humility you could commit this week to benefit someone else? A way to treat someone as more significant than yourself?