



August 11, 2024

## Like a Child

Luke 18:9-17

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### **The Attitude that Repels God: 18:9-12**

Ingredients in the stew of pride

Some who trusted in themselves: “I am in control” (*apart from Me You can do nothing*: **John 15:5**)

That they were righteous: “I am God-approved” (*no one is righteous, not even one*: **Romans 3:10**)

Treated others with contempt: “I am better than others” (*the first shall be last*: **Luke 12:30**)

God opposes the proud: **James 4:6**

Pride is a mist built on misguided assumptions: it is the realm of lie

Pride is the enemy of love as it places the self over others

The seven things God hates begins with “haughty eyes”: **Proverbs 6:16-19**

### **The Attitude that Draws God: 18:13-17**

The repentant heart and infant children

They are admitting failure/ living dependently (as opposed to believing themselves in control)

They are eschewing their wrong ways/learning what right from wrong (and not thinking themselves righteous)

There is no inner space for comparing with others (as opposed to seeing others through the lens of contempt)

This one went down to his house justified: **Luke 18:14**

Let the little children come to Me: **Luke 18:16**

### **The Psalm 131 Frame**

Dependence to Independence, Independence to Dependence

Recognizing and accepting dependence as the fundamental antidote to pride

In touch with my limits and my needs

One beggar to another: solidarity with others, gateway to love

Humility in light of what is beyond me

Work/rest balance in a life driven by hope (it must be given) rather than ambition (it must be grasped)

Big Idea:

This is God

This is a person with an attitude. The magnets stick together. I wonder what it is about this person that draws God and this person together?

Here is another person. The magnets repel. I wonder what it is about this person that creates resistance between God and this person?

Are there things that you don't like that repel you? Like a bad smell? Like a noise? Like a kind of weather?

The Bible tells us when God sees pride in humans he opposes it. We'll talk about why during the sermon.

Let's see if we can describe what pride is? What do you think?