

Today's Message: "What Was I Thinking"
Part 3: The Culprit of Pride

"There is one vice of which no man in the world is free; which everyone loathes when he sees it in someone else; and of which hardly any people, except Christians, ever imagine that they are guilty themselves...And the more we have it ourselves, the more we dislike it in others... According to Christian teachers, the essential vice, the utmost evil, is Pride. Unchastity, anger, greed, drunkenness, and all that, are mere fleabites in comparison: it was through Pride that the devil became the devil: Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind."

~C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

Pride defined in our relationship...

...with God, is an excessive belief in one's own abilities that interferes with our recognition of the grace of God.

...with others, is dangerously corrupt selfishness, the putting of one's own desires, urges, wants, and whims before the welfare of people.

*Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.
(Proverbs 16:18, ESV)*

Pride expressed: Vanity, conceit, and arrogance

Fruit of pride: Conflict, gossip, and alienation from God

Where there is strife, there is pride, but wisdom is found in those who take advice. (Proverbs 13:10, NIV)

What Was I Thinking: Part 3

Shannon Libengood

September 24 & 25, 2016

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Got pride? Abide!

*Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me.
(John 15:4, ESV)*

Abide: to remain, to sojourn or tarry, to not depart from.

Abiding expressed: Time with God and obedience

Fruit of abiding: Humility and generosity

*...And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!
(Philippians 2:3-8, NIV)*

Am I priding or abiding?

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Small Group or Personal Reflection Questions:

1. Share a moment from the past where you personally identify with the phrase, "Pride goes before a fall?"
2. Priding and abiding both bear fruit. What fruit of pride needs cut off in your life and what fruit of abiding do you desire to grow in?
3. Is there something in your life currently standing in the way of an abiding relationship with Jesus?
4. Read Philippians 2:5-8. Where and what is God asking you to obediently surrender?
5. As a way of expressing generosity, which "Outreach October" event will you participate in:
 - Restore --Tues., Oct. 18, 6-8:30pm
 - Expo '16 -- Sat., Oct. 22, 8am-3pm
 - Homewood Harvest Party -- Fri., Oct. 28, 7-9pm

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