

OUT OF THE SHADOWS

PART 1: THE SHADOW OF PRIDE

WIN

To recognize how pride affects our relationships with God and others, and to understand how humility leads to greater wisdom and freedom.

CONNECT

Who is someone you've known who earned your respect? What made them that kind of person?

LEARN

Before watching the video together and discussing the questions provided, we suggest taking a few moments to pray. Here's a simple prayer you can use:

Heavenly Father, help us see ourselves honestly today. Give us the humility to learn, grow, and become the men you have called us to be. Show us areas where pride may be influencing our thoughts, attitudes, or relationships, and help us become more like Jesus. Amen.

After praying, watch the video for Part 1.

APPLY

After the video, discuss the following questions as a group:

1. When someone gives you constructive criticism, what is your first instinct: listen, defend yourself, explain yourself, or something else?

2. Read **Proverbs 11:2** aloud.

When pride comes, then comes disgrace, but with humility comes wisdom.

What stands out to you most about this verse and why?

3. Pride keeps us from doing what we know we should do and causes us to do things we know we shouldn't. Which side of that definition resonates with you more? Why?
4. Pride often shows up as defensiveness, refusing help, avoiding apologies, or needing to be right. Which of those is most tempting for you? When you're tempted in that area, what are

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you typically telling yourself in the moment?

5. Think of a conflict, mistake, or regret where pride played a bigger role than you originally thought. What happened?
6. Read **1 Peter 5:5** aloud.

In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble."

Which relationship or environment would be most different if you consistently approached it with the humility of a servant? What would change?

- Marriage
 - Parenting
 - Friendships
 - Work
7. What's one opportunity you already know you'll have this week to "tie on the servant's apron"? What would choosing humility look like in that moment?

PRAY

Take prayer requests, then close your time in prayer. Here's a simple prayer you can use:

Heavenly Father, help us recognize the pride that keeps us from trusting you and loving others well. Give us the courage to admit when we're wrong, ask for help when we need it, and follow the example of Jesus by serving others with humility. Amen.

BEFORE NEXT TIME

This week, pay attention to the conversations happening in your own mind. When pride tells you to defend yourself, prove yourself, or put yourself first, ask God to help you respond with humility instead.