

Session 14

Pride / Humility / Fellowship

1. Discipleship Scenario

2. Discussion Questions

a. *"Pursue the Servant's Mindset"*, by Stuart Scott

Review Questions

- What Scriptural references to pride do you think about most often? What do the biblical words associated with pride have in common?

- What does the author mean when he writes that pride is "practical atheism"? How does pride make us would-be gods?

Questions for Personal Application

- Which of the fifteen characteristics of pride are most common in your own life? How have you been like the donkey in the illustration who thought the palm branches were for him? Have you ever been confronted about pride and minimized or rationalized it away?

- Read Phil. 2:1-11. We are instructed by Paul that our attitude "should be the same as Christ Jesus." How do we do this practically?

- Scott gives ten different ways to display humility. Which one, if you practiced it, would make the greatest difference in your life?
- Read number 3 on page 13. Do you believe you need God?
- Have you repented of your sin? Are there any patterns of pride continuing unabated with little to no change in your life? How are you seeking to put it to death?
- What form of pride is the one you struggle with most? Would those around you say that you are making progress in putting it to death?

b. "*Cross and Criticism*", by Alfred Poirier

Review Questions

- What is the author's definition of *criticism*? Do you enjoy criticism?
- What is the author's point when he says, "*we defend that which we deem of great value*"?

- How does understanding the judgment of the cross humble me to help me to receive criticism? Why is agreeing with Romans 3:9-18 so liberating to a man or woman?
- How does believing in the doctrine of justification help you to overcome the fear of criticism?

Questions for Personal Application

- Do you view the ability to heed and receive rebuke and correction as marks of wisdom?
- Do you honestly believe that "*no one can criticize you more than the cross has*"? If so, how does this help the way you give and receive criticism?
- How do you typically react to criticism? What is your first response when someone says you are wrong? Do you pursue observations from others beyond surface issues?
- When was the last time someone brought an observation to your attention? How did you respond? Please explain.

- Would those closest to you describe you as teachable? Please give some examples.

- If you continue to squirm under the criticism of others, how can you cultivate a greater agreement with the cross? If you typically justify yourself, how can you know, love, and cling to God's justification of you through the cross of Christ?

3. Exercise

Read the section "Implications for dealing with Criticism" aloud, and comment on it as you go along. Conclude by taking time to agree with the cross in prayer. Begin by thanking God for saving unrighteous and condemned sinners who were without hope, and thank him for justifying the same. Encourage the cultivation of affection in your prayers. And invite God to humble you in receiving the observations of others as these truths permeate your souls.

4. Scripture Memory Verse

Romans 13:11-14 ¹¹ Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. ¹² The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. ¹³ Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

5. Assignment for Next Time

Read chapters 26-28 in Bible Doctrine.

Next meeting is _____.