

Defensive Pride - Lesson

Lesson summary: Pride is one of the most dangerous traps we can fall into. If not dealt with it ALWAYS leads to a fall.

PROVERBS 16:18 (NIV)

Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.

Three Types of Pride

1. **Unapproachable Pride** – they cannot be corrected, reprovved, or confronted in any matter. Noticeably tense when confronted about areas of their life that need to be corrected.
 - a) **PROVERBS 9:7-8**
 - b) Remedies
 - They need to learn to see correction as beneficial, not an attack to be defended against
 - We must allow ourselves to be corrected

2. **Know-It-All Pride** – they are usually talented, gifted, and knowledgeable. With an attitude that they can do anything, and they are usually mostly right, but with a super-inflated view of themselves. They distrust the abilities of others, and consider themselves to be the ones with all the answers. They discredit the abilities of others in their mind, or verbally.
 - a) **1 CORINTHIANS 3:18-19**
 - b) Remedies
 - They need to learn to humbly ask advice of others, even of things they are capable of doing themselves.
 - They need to tie their tongues when someone starts teaching them.

3. **Self-Exalted Pride** – they have a need to be the center of attention. They thrive on everyone noticing them, and usually they have an attractive personality. Usually a fun person to be around.
 - a) **PROVERBS 27:2**
 - b) Remedies
 - They need to develop a quiet meekness
 - They need to stop promoting themselves
 - They need to stop making sure everyone notices their good deeds, and instead, do their good works in secret

One of the ways to bring a stronger sense of humility is by choosing to volunteer for humble jobs at your church or around the house or even at work if applicable.

What are some things that have helped you battle pride in your life?

(Taken from Steve Gallagher's book *At the Altar of Sexual Idolatry*)