

Before A Fall

James 4:6

Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

Proverbs 16:18

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

There is no fault which makes a man more unpopular, and no fault which we are more unconscious of in ourselves. And the more we have it ourselves, the more we dislike it in others.

The desire to lift up and exalt ourselves beyond our place as God's creature lies at the heart of pride.

James 1:14–15

Each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

Pride in Us

- Fault Finding
- A Harsh Spirit
- Superficiality
- Defensiveness
- Presumption Before God
- Desperation for Attention
- Neglecting Others

God's Reaction

- Death – Haman
- Destruction – King Uzziah
- Disgrace – Nebuchadnezzar

Humility

Jesus Example

Philippians 2:5-8

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Right View of Ourselves

Romans 12:3

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned.

"Humility is not a grace that can be acquired in a few months: it is the work of a lifetime." And it is a grace that is precious in the sight of God, who in due course will exalt all who embrace it.

Notes for Little Saints

Write out Proverbs 16:18:

Pride is putting _____ above God.

Put a check in box by any of these that describe you:

- ☐ Assuming you already know it when someone tries to tell you something
- ☐ Seeing yourself as too good to perform certain tasks
- ☐ Being too proud to ask for help
- ☐ Talking about yourself a lot – Not being quick to listen and slow to speak
- ☐ Thinking you are better than others who are different or less fortunate
- ☐ Being consistently critical
- ☐ Consistently needing people to pay attention to you
- ☐ Unable to receive constructive criticism
- ☐ Overly obsessed with how you look
- ☐ Unwilling to submit to authority or obey parents
- ☐ Making excuses for your sin instead of confessing it

Any of the boxes you checked could come from pride. Pray and ask God to help change the way you act in that area of your life.

What is humility?

Who is our example of humility?

Write out Matthew 20:28: