

Wisdom and Pride

Walking In Wisdom - Week 8

James 3:13-14:8

I. Pride

A. Where does Pride come from?

1. Ezekiel 28:14-17 and Isaiah 14:12-16
2. Mark 7:20-21

a) Pride comes from the heart, and influences our thoughts and actions.

B. "Pride is spiritual cancer: it eats up the very possibility of love, or contentment, or even common sense." C. S. Lewis

C. It is prideful to think that we can do anything aside from God.

D. James 3:14-16

1. Bitter envying = Zelos - Jealousy; zeal; ardor; heat, zeal, malice, emulation (strive to equal or excel)
2. Strife = eritheia - Selfish ambition
3. Confusion = akatastasia - disorder; instability; insurrection

E. James 4:1-5

1. You lust, and covet, and murder, and fight for what you want yet never receive.

a) We try every possibility to get what we want instead of asking God for it. This pride.

b) We also know better than to ask God for it because we know that want them for the wrong reasons.

(1) God's wisdom teaches us to trust Him with our needs and wants and to not take it into our own hands.

2. Pride is an isolator by nature.

a) When I'm full of pride I'm convinced that I don't need God or anyone else.

F. Characteristics of Pride - <https://leadercareal.org/12-signs-of-pride-in-your-life/>

1. Arrogance - Believing you are superior or better than others in various aspects.

a) Someone that has an abortion is saying that their personal desire to live life they want to is more important than that child's life. Especially if that child might be handicapped, because that is extremely inconvenient.

2. Self-Centeredness - Focusing excessively on your achievements, desires, and needs.
3. Unwillingness to Apologize - Refusing to admit mistakes or ask for forgiveness.
4. Judgmental and unsympathetic
5. Ingratitude - Take God's blessing for granted, and often have a victimized mentality.
6. Reluctance to serve - Always expect others to serve you and your family and lack desire to serve others.
7. Seeking Recognition - If you do serve it's with strings attached.
8. Refusing Advice
9. Defensiveness - Become defensive when confronted.

10. (My Addition) False Humility and Self-Devaluation

- a) False Humility (low Self-esteem) - We can allow our own negative opinion of ourselves to overrule God's opinion of us.
- b) Self-Devaluation - a defense mechanism that involves belittling oneself and one's abilities, often through negative self-talk. It can lead to feelings of fraudulence and impostor syndrome, as well as a belief that one's accomplishments are not legitimate.
 - (1) If I think negatively enough about myself I won't feel as disappointed from other people's criticism.

II. Wisdom is Humble

- A. James 3:13 (AMP) "Who among you is wise and intelligent? Let him by his good conduct show his [good] deeds with the gentleness and humility of true wisdom."
- B. Proverbs 11:2 (AMP)
- C. Philip. 2:3-9
 - 1. Jesus is our example of humility and wisdom. He emptied Himself and gave His life for us all. Not because He was weak, but because He was stronger than us all.
- D. Humility truly is the wisest path out.
 - 1. 1 Peter 5:5-11
 - a) We all want to believe that we are loved and cared for by God. Our inclination to hold on to and fret over our cares limits God's grace in our lives.
 - (1) If we are unwilling to trust God with our cares He will never have the opportunity to prove His love to us.