

## **Humility:**

- Gets God's Attention!

Isa: 66:2 ... *But this is the one to whom I will look: he who is humble and contrite in spirit and trembles at my word.*

- God is decisively drawn to humility!

James 4:6 *But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble."*

- God helps those who humble themselves!

"Humility is honestly assessing ourselves in light of God's holiness and our sinfulness."  
CJ Mahaney

## **Pride:**

- Pride is in our hearts!

"At every stage of our Christian development and in every sphere of our Christian discipleship, pride is the greatest enemy and humility our greatest friend." John Stott

- Pride is our common greatest enemy!

Pride was the motivation behind Satan's rebellion (Isa. 14:13)

- Pride is the core of all sin:

"Pride is more than the first of the seven deadly sins; it is itself the essence of all sin"  
John Stott

The proud man's haughty eyes head up the list of what God hates. Prov. 6:16-17)

Prov. 8:13 *The fear of the LORD is hatred of evil. Pride and arrogance and the way of evil and perverted speech I hate.*

Prov. 16:5 *Everyone who is arrogant in heart is an abomination to the LORD; be assured, he will not go unpunished.*

- Pride in our hearts contends for Supremacy with God.

## God is actively opposing the proud!

1 Peter 5:5 *Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."*

(Pride) "The worst viper that is in the heart" Jonathan Edwards.

- Pride destroys things

Prov. 16:18 *Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall.*

Pride ruins churches. Ruins marriages, ruins friendships.

## Do you want to be great?

- Greatness redefined: (The great reversal)

Mark 10:35-45

*35And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came up to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." 36And he said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" 37And they said to him, "Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." 38Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" 39And they said to him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized, 40but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." 41And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. 42 And Jesus called them to him and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. 43But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, 44and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. 45For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."*

Pride is our greatest enemy---Humility is our greatest ally.

- Culturally defined greatness: Individuals motivated by self-interest, self-indulgence, selfish ambition, for the purpose of self-glorification.
- Biblically defined greatness—**Serving for the glory of God!**

Can you recognize true greatness? Are you pursuing it?

### **Practical application:**

- **Jesus leads the way.**

“At the source of all Christian service in the world is the crucified and risen Lord who died to liberate us into such service” Donald English

- **Realize you need Jesus to save you and help you!**

Believe Jesus is Lord, Confess your sin, and Receive His grace.

- **Reflect on the wonder of the cross:**

“Every time we look at the cross Christ seems to be saying to us, “I am here because of you. It is your sin I am bearing, your curse I am suffering, your debt I am paying, your death I am dying.” Nothing in history or the universe cuts us down in size like the cross. All of us have inflated views of ourselves, especially in self-righteousness, until we have visited a place called Calvary. It is there, at the foot of the cross, that we shrink to our true size.” John Stott

- **Invite and pursue correction:**

Not meant to be a solitary pursuit.

Just being together is not enough! Pursue others care and correction. Ask Questions!!!

Humbly and aggressively participate in lifegroup.

Do I confess specific sin consistently?

Do others find it easy to correct me?

John 13:17 *If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them.*