

Small Group Study Guide



Look at Me
Sept 8, 2019

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly Father, thank you so much for your grace and your mercy. Thank you for the example of Jesus. Today we pray that you would help us recognize pride in our lives so that we could get rid of it. Give us the courage to push through and to embrace the extraordinary model and teaching of humility from our Lord Jesus Christ. We pray this in his name. Amen.

SCRIPTURE:

Psalm 10:4 New International Version (NIV)

4 In his pride the wicked man does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God.

Philippians 2:5-8 New International Version (NIV)

5 In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; 7 rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. 8 And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!

INTRODUCTION

There is a sin that is so common to the human experience, it is the gateway to all other sins. It promises to make us bigger, better, and more important, but only makes us smaller and meaner. It strips us of our capacity to connect with others. It stands between us and our heavenly Father. What is it? Pride! So what can we do about it?

Pride crowds out other people. It crowds out God. Pride is a prison. **Saying no to pride is saying yes to God.** Root out the pride in your life. Kill it before it kills you. Why would you opt to follow something that is killing you when you've been invited to follow someone who died for you?

QUESTIONS

- 1) In what ways does our culture reward pride? In what ways have you seen that affect people's lives?
- 2) Talk about a time when you knew the right thing to do but let pride prevent you from doing it. What did it cost you?
- 3) Read Philippians 2:5–8 on page 1. What would it look like for you to have the same mindset as Jesus in your relationships with others? What are some practical obstacles to your treating others that way?
- 4) How does pride manifest itself in you? In what ways do you protect your own image?
- 5) What does pride masquerade as in you—confidence, intelligence, fashion, sarcasm, a commitment to excellence, something else?
- 6) What is one relationship in which you need to initiate reconciliation? What can this group do to support you?

FINAL APPLICATION

How much longer do you plan to let pride hold the remote in your life? What is one step you can take this week to let go of pride?