

WISDOM

Humbling Yourself

Proverbs 16:18-19

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I. The Pursuit of Honor

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- **Pride seeks honor.**

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Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. It is better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor than to divide the spoil with the proud.

Proverbs 16:18-19

I. The Pursuit of Honor

- **Pride seeks honor.**
- **Pride is needing to feel better than other people in some way, in order to feel valued and honored.**

I. The Pursuit of Honor

“Pride gets no pleasure in having something, but having more than someone else...The comparison is what makes us proud, wanting to be better than someone else.”

~C.S. Lewis

I. The Pursuit of Honor

- **Pride seeks honor.**
- **Pride is needing to feel better than other people in some way, in order to feel valued and honored.**
- **Pride, like in a courtroom, forces you to constantly defend and prove yourself.**

I. The Pursuit of Honor

The LORD tears down the house of the proud but maintains the widow's boundaries.

Proverbs 15:25

I. The Pursuit of Honor

Pride in the religious sense is the arrogant refusal to let God be God. It is to grab God's status for one's self. In the vivid language of the Bible, pride is puffing yourself up in God's face. Pride is turning down God's invitation to join the dance of life as a creature in his garden and wishing instead to be the Creator, Independent, reliant on one's own resources. Never does pride want to pray for strength, ask for grace, plead for mercy, or give thanks to God...

I. The Pursuit of Honor

...Once we decide we have to make it on our own, we are attacked by the demons of fear and anxiety. We are worried that we cannot keep our balance as long as we carry no more inside our empty heart than what we can put there. We suspect that we lack the power to become what our pride makes us think we are. So we learn to swagger, to bluff, to use symbols to cover up our fears that we lack substance. We force other people to act as buttresses for the shaky ego that pride created by emptying our soul of God.”

~Lewis Smeed

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I. The Pursuit of Honor

- **Pride seeks honor.**
- **Pride is needing to feel better than other people in some way, in order to feel valued and honored.**
- **Pride, like in a courtroom, forces you to constantly defend and prove yourself.**
- **The cost of pride is destruction.**

I. The Pursuit of Honor

Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. It is better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor than to divide the spoil with the proud.

Proverbs 16:18-19

II. The Pursuit of Humility

- **Humility is having the right view of yourself.**

II. The Pursuit of Humility

The reward for humility and fear of the LORD is riches and honor and life.

Proverbs 22:4

II. The Pursuit of Humility

- **Humility is having the right view of yourself**
- **Humility, with a right view of God, leads to honor.**

II. The Pursuit of Humility

**Before destruction a man's heart is
haughty, but humility comes before honor.
Proverbs 18:12**

**One's pride will bring him low, but he who
is lowly in spirit will obtain honor.
Proverbs 29:23**

II. The Pursuit of Humility

Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, but whoever humbles himself will be exalted

Matthew 23:12

II. The Pursuit of Humility

- **Humility is having the right view of yourself**
- **Humility, with a right view of God, leads to honor.**

II. The Pursuit of Humility

- **Steps to Humbling Yourself**

- 1. You must trust God's Word over yourself**

II. The Pursuit of Humility

Whoever despises the word brings destruction on himself, but he who reveres the commandment will be rewarded.

Proverbs 13:13

II. The Pursuit of Humility

- **Steps to Humbling Yourself**

- 1. You must trust God's Word over yourself**
- 2. You need to allow fellow believers to speak into your life**

II. The Pursuit of Humility

**The ear that listens to life-giving
reproof will dwell among the wise.**

Proverbs 15:31

II. The Pursuit of Humility

- **Steps to Humbling Yourself**

- 1. You must trust God's Word over yourself**
- 2. You need to allow fellow believers to speak into your life**
- 3. You need to be willing to confess and forsake your sin.**

II. The Pursuit of Humility

**Whoever conceals his transgressions
will not prosper, but he who
confesses and forsakes them will
obtain mercy.**

Proverbs 28:13

II. The Pursuit of Humility

- **Steps to Humbling Yourself**

- 1. You must trust God's Word over yourself**
- 2. You need to allow fellow believers to speak into your life**
- 3. You need to be willing to confess and forsake your sin.**

II. The Pursuit of Humility

“Spiritual pride is very apt to suspect others, but a humble Christian is most guarded about himself. He is as suspicious of nothing in the world as he is of his own heart. The proud person is apt to find fault with other believers, that they are low in grace, and to be quick to note their deficiencies. But the humble Christian has so much to do at home and sees so much evil in his own heart and is so concerned about it that he is not apt to be very busy with other hearts. He is apt to esteem others better than himself.”

~Jonathan Edwards

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III. The Pursuit of Jesus

- **Jesus pursued you, in order to free you from the courtroom**

III. The Pursuit of Jesus

...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.

Philippians 2:5-8

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III. The Pursuit of Jesus

- **Jesus pursued you, in order to free you from the courtroom**
- **Because of Jesus, you are:**
 - **No longer on trial**
 - **No longer in need of defending yourself**
 - **Accepted, Righteous, and Completely Loved**

III. The Pursuit of Jesus

Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:9-11

III. The Pursuit of Jesus

And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.

Romans 8:30

III. The Pursuit of Jesus

- **Jesus pursued you, in order to free you from the courtroom**
- **Jesus brings you into the cosmic dance where you receive complete honor from God**

I. The Pursuit of Honor

II. The Pursuit of Humility

III. The Pursuit of Jesus