



ACHILLES

MESSAGE REVIEW

Every single one of us has a vulnerability or weakness in our character that, left unchecked, can and will bring down our relationships, reputation, and influence. That weakness is pride – an unhealthy preoccupation with self – and Scripture is clear that God hates pride. He knows it is the root of nearly every sin struggle we have, which is why one of the most loving things God does for us is oppose pride in our lives. There is freedom in letting go of pride, embracing humility, and acknowledging our need for God in everything we do.

WARM UP QUESTION

What is the most humiliating or humbling job you've ever done?

- 1** **Read Matthew 18:1-4.** Imagine this scene playing out in your mind. What are the disciples concerned with? What stands out to you most about how Jesus responds to them? What do you think He means when He says you won't even get into heaven unless you turn from your sins and become like a child?
- 2** What kinds of qualities, especially in Jesus' day, do you think Jesus had in mind when He spoke of the humility of a child? Which one of those qualities is a struggle in your own life? How does imagining yourself as a small child with a heavenly Father affect the way you see your relationship with Him?
- 3** **Read Proverbs 16:5-6.** What do you think about the word used to describe how God feels about pride in us (read some other versions as well)? Do you take your pride that seriously? How is verse 6 a good follow-up to verse 5? Whose love and faithfulness? What does a healthy fear of God look like practically?
- 4** **Read Matthew 23:12 and 1 Peter 5:5.** What stands out to you in each of these verses? Have you ever experienced God opposing pride in you? How is it really an act of His love to want to root it out?
- 5** What are some of the lies pride promises that you've bought into (Aaron mentioned three: it promises to make you bigger, to give you influence, and that you don't need God)? Based on the example of Jesus in **Philippians 2:3-9**, what is one practical thing you can do this week to let go of pride and embrace humility?

RESPOND

What have you learned about God from His Word? How is He asking you to apply it to your life? When will you apply it?

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