

## **Special Section: Humility**

### **Bible Study: Exploring Pride And Humility**

#### **The Many Faces of Pride**

1. What are some behaviors you associate with pride?

2. According to the following verses, how does pride manifest itself?

Deut. 8:14

Psalm 10:4

Psalm 31:18

Psalm 40:4

Psalm 56:2

Psalm 59:12

Psalm 62:10

Psalm 73:6

Psalm 123:4

Psalm 140:5

Proverbs 13:10

Proverbs 21:24

3. Read James 4:1–5:6. List the sinful actions and attitudes that James addresses in these verses.

4. Midway through this section of his letter, James talks about pride and humility (James 4:6–10). How do you think pride is related to the behaviors you listed in question 3?

### **Humble yourself . . . or be humbled.**

5. Reread James 4:7–10. What actions are related to the final command to “humble yourself before the Lord”?

6. Can you think of a time when you humbled yourself before God? What did you do?

7. Can you think of a time when God had to step in and humble you Himself? How did He do it?

8. According to Deut. 8:2–3 and Deut. 8:16, why does God sometimes lead us into “desert” times?

### **How God Responds**

9. The following verses describe God's responses to the humble and the proud. Make two columns on your sheet of paper. On the left, describe how God responds to the proud. On the right, list His responses to the humble.

Psalm 18:27

Psalm 31:23

Psalm 138:6

Proverbs 3:34

Proverbs 11:2

Proverbs 15:25

Proverbs 29:23

10. What should our attitude be toward pride (Proverbs 8:13)?

11. Read Luke 14:7–11. What did Jesus say will happen to those who seek honor for themselves?

12. What are some ways in which Christians "exalt" themselves?

### **No Room for Pride**

13. Why is pride so ludicrous?

Job 38:1–18

Jeremiah 18:5–6

1 Peter 1:24

14. Read Jeremiah 9:23–24. What is one thing God allows us to boast about?

15. Read Phil. 2:5–11. Why is humility the only appropriate attitude of those who follow Christ?

### **The Prayer of the Humble**

16. Read Psalm 131. This is a prayer of complete humility and surrender. How does the psalmist describe his state of heart and mind in this psalm?

17. Describe the psalmist's posture in this psalm. Why is this such a fitting picture of humility?

18. David concludes his psalm with an exhortation to place our hope in God. What do you think is the link between hope and humility?

19. Write your own psalm to God in which you commit yourself to Him in childlike hope, trust, and humility.

“Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.”

—*Matthew 18:4*