



## 50 Fruits of Pride

I John 2:15-17

Handout March 10, 2023

Welcome back and here we go! Tonight, we will talk about a different fruit. For five weeks we have heard our very own members describe the fruit of the Spirit. They defined each fruit. They showed the opposite of each fruit. They gave personal examples and then showed how to recover in the event one stops producing the fruit. What an amazing group of people! This is what makes Face of Grace so special --- not size --- not super stars --- but YOU. You make it great. You are the super stars!

Boy, I sure am *proud* of everyone! Is that OK?

1) Not all pride is \_\_\_\_\_!

***Pride goeth before ... the fall. Proverbs 16:18.***

While pride may not be all bad --- the bible has a lot of stark warnings.

Throughout my life, I have known a lot of proud people, but none more so than while incarcerated. Pride was always on display.

**Pride:**

- a) a feeling of deep pleasure or satisfaction at one's own accomplishments, the achievements of those closely associated, or from qualities or possessions that are widely admired.
- b) Consciousness of one's own dignity - "He swallowed his pride."

2) Pride is \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_.

We have an additional handout tonight that Sister Carol sent me before we started the Fruit of the Spirit series. I thought "*Boy, I know who needs this!*". Well, that is #50 on the handout. Check it out.

Truly, do we recognize pride in ourselves? Ever? Or do we always reserve it for others?

I was also a proud man most of my life. Business, cars, furniture, talent, looks. HA HA!

***1 Peter 5:5 'Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders. Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble."***

Literally, if you are proud, acting proud, have a mental attitude of pride, God is against you. He will resist you. You will find yourself frustrated and even angry.

While on the inside I had to deal with all types of opposition from Christians. God taught me to never argue or debate.

"Pride" has to be heard or has to have its own way.

Is it possible to be humble if you have authority or power or riches or influence?

**Numbers 12:3** '(Now the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth.)'

3) Moses was the \_\_\_\_\_ person on earth!

Humility is possible, but it takes self-examination, willingness to listen and ultimately, trust in God.

Are you humble? Are you overly proud?

4) Humility is \_\_\_\_\_!

As you look over this list, hopefully you are not "fruit inspecting" ..... thinking of others.

If you are, you are in the "PRIDE VORTEX".



The inability to focus on self without comparing.

So ---- what is the solution?

5) Become a \_\_\_\_\_ oriented believer.

Pride is the anti-thesis of grace.

I included an additional handout for you to review. Please take extra handouts home. They are a great reference.

The one entitled PRIDE (Arrogance) is the actual teaching from Grace Notes, our doctrine at Face of Grace.

Maybe you will be too proud to read. I hope not. I live by these notes. (hence, my good looks.... Sorry...) In all seriousness,

**James 4:6-10** *'But He gives more grace. Therefore He says: "God resists the proud, But gives grace to the humble." Therefore submit to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you. Draw near to God and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners; and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep! Let your laughter be turned to mourning and your joy to gloom. Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.'*

*"...Submit to God --- resist the devil..."*

If you want God's favor, if you want promotion, if you want to overcome sinful pride, humble yourself and God will lift you up.

Let's pray.

# 50 FRUITS OF PRIDE

- 1) **I tend to be self-sufficient in the way I live my life.** I don't live with a constant awareness that my every breath is dependent upon the will of God. I tend to think I have enough strength, ability and wisdom to live and manage my life. My practice of the spiritual disciplines is inconsistent and superficial. I don't like to ask others for help.
- 2) **I am often anxious about my life and the future.** I tend not to trust God and rarely experience his abiding and transcendent peace in my soul. I have a hard time sleeping at night because of fearful thoughts and burdens I carry.
- 3) **I am overly self-conscious.** I tend to replay in my mind how I did, what I said, how I am coming across to others, etc. I am very concerned about what people think of me. I think about these things constantly.
- 4) **I fear man more than God.** I am afraid of others and make decisions about what I will say or do based upon this fear. I am afraid to take a stand for things that are right. I am concerned with how people will react to me or perceive my actions or words. I don't often think about God's opinion in a matter and rarely think there could be consequences for disobeying him. I primarily seek the approval of man and not of God.
- 5) **I often feel insecure.** I don't want to try new things or step out into uncomfortable situations because I'm afraid I'll fail or look foolish. I am easily embarrassed.
- 6) **I regularly compare myself to others.** I am performance oriented. I feel that I have greater worth if I do well.
- 7) **I am self-critical.** I tend to be a perfectionist. I can't stand for little things to be wrong because they reflect poorly on me. I have a hard time putting my mistakes behind me.
- 8) **I desire to receive credit and recognition for what I do.** I like people to see what I do and let me know that they noticed. I feel hurt or offended when they don't. I am overly concerned about my reputation and hate being misunderstood.
- 9) **I want people to be impressed with me. I like to make my accomplishments known.**
- 10) **I tend to be deceptive about myself.** I find myself lying to preserve my reputation. I find myself hiding the truth about myself, especially about sins, weaknesses, etc. I don't want people to know who I really am.
- 11) **I am selfishly ambitious.** I really want to get ahead. I like having a position or title. I far prefer leading to following.
- 12) **I am overly competitive.** I always want to win or come out on top and it bothers me when I don't.
- 13) **I like to be the center of attention and will say or do things to draw attention to myself.**
- 14) **I like to talk, especially about myself or persons or things I am involved with.** I want people to know what I am doing or thinking. I would rather speak than listen. I have a hard time being succinct.
- 15) **I am self-serving. When asked to do something, I find myself asking, "How will doing this help me, or will I be inconvenienced?"**
- 16) **I am not very excited about seeing or making others successful.** I tend to feel envious, jealous or critical towards those who are doing well or being honoured.
- 17) **I feel special or superior because of what I have achieved or attained**
- 18) **I think highly of myself.** In relation to others, I typically see myself as more mature and more gifted. In most situations, I have more to offer than others even though I may not say so. I don't consider myself average or ordinary.
- 19) **I tend to give myself credit for who I am and what I accomplish.** I only occasionally think about or recognize that all that I am or have comes from God.
- 20) **I tend to be self-righteous.** I can think that I really have something to offer God. I would never say so, but I think God did well to save me. I seldom think about or recognize my complete depravity and helplessness apart from God. I regularly focus on the sins of others. I don't credit God for any degree of holiness in my life.
- 21) **I feel deserving.** I think I deserve what I have. In fact, I think I ought to have more considering how well I have lived or in light of all I have done.
- 22) **I often feel ungrateful.** I tend to grumble about what I have or my lot in life.
- 23) **I find myself wallowing in self-pity.** I am consumed with how I am treated by God and others. I tend to feel mistreated or misunderstood. I seldom recognize or sympathize with what's going on with others around me because I feel that I have it worse than they do.
- 24) **I can be jealous or envious of others' abilities, possessions, positions, or accomplishments.** I want to be what others are or want to have what others have. I am envious of what others have thinking that I should have it or deserve it. I find it hard to rejoice with others when they are blessed by God.

- 25) **I am pretty insensitive to others.** I feel that some people just aren't worth caring about. I have a hard time showing compassion. I'm sure that I would handle their situation better than they have.
- 26) **I have a know-it-all attitude.** I am impressed by my own knowledge. I feel like there isn't much I can learn from other people, especially those less mature than me.
- 27) **I have a hard time listening to ordinary people.** I listen better to those I respect or people I want to leave with a good impression. I don't honestly listen when someone else is speaking because I am usually planning what I am going to say next.
- 28) **I like to reveal my own mind.** I have an answer for practically every situation. I feel compelled to balance everyone else out.
- 29) **I interrupt people regularly.** I don't let people finish what they are saying.
- 30) **I feel compelled to stop people when they start to share something with me I already know.**
- 31) **I find it hard to admit it when I don't know something.** When someone asks me something I don't know, I will make up an answer rather than admit I don't know or act as I knew the answer when it is revealed
- 32) **I don't get much out of teaching.** I tend to evaluate a speaker rather than my own life. I rarely ask, "What is God trying to teach me?" I grumble in my heart about hearing something a second time.
- 33) **I listen to teaching with other people in mind.** I constantly think of those folks who need to hear the teaching and wish they were here.
- 34) **I don't pursue correction for my life.** I'm not very open to input. I tend to be unteachable and slow to repent when corrected. I don't really see correction as a positive thing. I am offended when people probe the motivations of my heart or seek to adjust me.
- 35) **I have a hard time admitting that I am wrong.** I find myself covering up or excusing my sins. It is hard for me to confess my sins to others or to ask for forgiveness.
- 36) **I view correction as an intrusion into my privacy rather than an instrument of God for my welfare.** I can't identify anyone who would feel welcome to correct me.
- 37) **I resent people who attempt to correct me.** I don't respond with gratefulness and sincere appreciation for their input. Instead I am tempted to accuse them and dwell on their faults. I get bitter and withdraw.
- 38) **When corrected or challenged, I become contentious and argumentative.** I don't take people's observations seriously. I minimize and make excuses or give explanations.
- 39) **I am easily angered and offended.** I don't like being crossed or disagreed with. I find myself thinking, "I can't believe they did that to me." I often feel wronged.
- 40) **I have "personality conflicts" with others.** I have a hard time getting along with certain kinds of people. People regularly tell me that they struggle with me.
- 41) **I am self-willed and stubborn.** I have a hard time cooperating with others. I really prefer my own way and often insist on getting it.
- 42) **I am independent and uncommitted.** I don't really see why I need other people. I can easily separate myself from others. I don't get much out of Group meetings.
- 43) **I am unaccountable.** I don't ask others to hold me responsible to follow through on my commitments. I don't really need accountability for my words and actions. I think I can take care of myself.
- 44) **I am unsubmitive.** I don't like being under the authority of another person. I don't see submission as a good and necessary provision from God for my life. I have a hard time supporting and serving those over me. I don't "look up" to people and I like to be in charge. Other people may need leaders but I don't. It is important that my voice is heard.
- 45) **I lack respect for other people.** I don't think very highly of most people. I have a hard time encouraging and honouring others unless they really do something great.
- 46) **I am a slanderer.** I find myself either giving or receiving evil reports about others. Often times the things I say or hear are true about other people. I am not concerned about the effect of slander on me because of my maturity level. I think I can handle it. I will only share with others the things I really think they need to know. I don't tell all.
- 47) **I am divisive.** I tend to resist or resent authority. I don't like other people to give me orders or directions.
- 48) **I like to demean or put others down.** I often think people need to be adjusted and put in their place. This includes leaders. Other people need to be more humble and have a "sober" assessment of themselves.
- 49) **I tend to be critical of others.** I find myself feeling or talking negatively about people. I subtly feel better about myself when I see how bad someone else is. I find it far easier to evaluate than to encourage someone else.
- 50) **I really appreciate a list like this; as I read it, several people came to mind who need it- none of which are me.**

## PRIDE (Arrogance)

**Proverbs 6:16-17**, “\*\*These six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him: a proud look ...”

### Introduction

God has a plan for your life. God is perfect. Therefore, His plan is perfect.

It is impossible for you with your sin nature to execute the plan of God for your life. Therefore, God has provided through His grace a way for you to execute His plan, purpose, and will during your lifetime.

Whenever a Christian fails in executing the plan of God for his life, sinful pride is the primary reason and motivating cause.

Pride is the basic mental attitude sin. As you will see in this study, sinful pride or arrogance precedes and supports all of the sinful mental attitudes the sin nature produces.

Satan was the first creature guilty of pride. His motivation of pride is found in one line of Isa. 14:14, “I will make myself like the Most High God.” The original sin of pride is amplified in the following passage.

**Ezek. 28:14-17**

### A Description of Sinful Pride

Pride is a lofty self-respect totally apart from reality. It is high esteem of oneself from some imagined or real superiority.

Pride is the antithesis of grace. The believer who is arrogant is totally blind to the grace of God.

Pride is synonymous with vanity, which is empty pride in regard to one’s person, attainments, or possessions coupled with an excessive desire to be noticed, a lust for attention, lust for approval or praise from others.

Pride is the pomposity of vain glory. It is supercilious and haughty contempt of others.

Pride supports a whole array of sins, such as jealousy, bitterness, vindictiveness, implacability, revenge motivation, revenge tactics, self pity, conceit, inordinate ambition and competition, slander, gossip and maligning.

Pride is a mental attitude sin which overflows into the motivation, decision making and activity of the individual. Pride includes several different concepts.

- **Egotism.** This is an excessive preoccupation with self and must be distinguished from ego, which is self consciousness and is perfectly normal.
- **Vanity.** This is self admiration and an excessive desire to be admired by others. Hence, vanity is easily flattered and patronized.
- **Conceit.** This is exaggerated estimate of one’s abilities and attainments.

### Scriptures Related to the Sin of Pride

**Prov. 11:2**, “When pride comes, then come dishonor. But with the humble is wisdom.”

**Prov. 16:18**, “Pride precedes destruction, And a haughty spirit before stumbling.”

**Rom. 12:3**, “For though the grace given to me I say to every man among you not to think more highly of himself than he ought to think; but to think so as to have sound judgment, as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.”

### Pride is defined in terms of the sin of jealousy in

**James 3:14-16**, “But if you have bitter jealousy and inordinate ambition in your heart, stop being arrogant, and stop lying against the truth. This pseudo wisdom is not that which comes from above, but is earthly, natural, and demonic. For where jealousy and inordinate ambition exist there is disorder and every evil deed.”

**Prov. 13:10**, “Through pride comes strife, but wisdom is with those who receive instruction.”

**\*\*1 Pet. 5:5**, “\*\*Likewise you younger men be subject to the elder, and all of you cloth yourselves with humility toward one another. ‘For God makes war against the arrogant, but He gives grace to the humble.’ Therefore, humble yourselves under the powerful hand of God, that He may promote you at the proper time.”

## Application

If God does not promote you, you are not promoted.

God promotes men and women of who have absorbed the word of God.

God promotes humble or grace oriented people.

Promotion is a matter of doctrinal inculcation and grace-orientation.

Promotion is a matter of glorifying God through the execution of the plan of God for the believer in the church age.

Promoted believers are the invisible heroes of the church age.

**2 Tim. 3:2-7** “For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, slanderers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, wicked, without virtue love, malicious gossips, without self control, brutal, not lovers of God, treacherous, thoughtless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, having a form of godliness but having denied its power, in fact, avoid such persons as these. And among them are those who creep into households and captivate silly women who are loaded down with sins and lead on by their multifarious lusts, always learning but never able to come to metabolized knowledge of the truth.”

## The Arrogance of Nations Brings Them Under Divine Discipline

**Lev. 26:19**, “And I will break down the pride of your power. And I will make your sky like iron and your land like bronze.”

**Isa. 9:8-9**, “The Lord sends a message against Jacob and it falls on Israel. And all the people know it, that is, Ephraim and the inhabitants of Samaria, who spoke with pride and pride of heart.”

**Ezek. 7:10**, “Behold, the day is coming. Your doom has gone forth. The rod of discipline has budded because pride has blossomed.”

## Pride is Always Related to the Rejection of the Word of God

**1 Tim. 6:3-4**, “If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not concur with sound doctrine, those doctrines of our Lord Jesus Christ, even doctrines pertaining to godliness, he has become arrogant, understanding nothing. Furthermore, he has morbid obsessions about controversies and verbal conflicts from which originate jealousy, discord, evil speculation.”

Pride distracts the believer from doctrine. Pride divorces the believer from reality, both personal and historical. Pride is the corruptor of the soul and the sign that the sin nature is dominating the soul.

Pride destroys capacity for life, love and happiness.

## The Effects of Pride

The arrogant person rejects authority.

Pride motivates emotional sins, such as: fear, worry, anxiety, hatred, anger, violence, murder, guilt, guilt complex and self pity.

Pride reproduces itself in jealousy, bitterness, vindictiveness, implacability, revenge motivation and function, inordinate ambition and competition, gossip, slander, maligning and judging.

Pride transformed into self righteousness produces legalism.

## The Solution to Pride

Occupation with Christ is the ultimate problem solving device regarding pride. Refer to the Grace Notes on Occupation with Christ.

**Prov 8:13**, “The respect for the Lord is to hate evil, to hate pride and arrogance and the evil way. And I hate a perverted mouth.”

Daily attention to the techniques of the Christian way of Life will give you a grace mental attitude that becomes more and more free of pride as you grow in Christ and in the knowledge of His word.