



PART 1: PRIDE

FOUNDING PASTOR KEN WERLEIN
NUMBERS 12:1-13

The famous “Seven Deadly Sins” are so called because they lie at the root of every other sin. Therefore, if we want 2020 to be a year of victory, we have to identify where these sins are present in our lives and begin to apply gospel-centered remedies to those places in our hearts. In week one, we start with the sin at the bottom of them all: pride.

1. To play good defense, why is it important to understand the opponent’s offense?
2. Why does pride often act as a gateway to other sins? How does that work?
3. Read **Numbers 12:1-13**. V. 2 suggests that Aaron and Miriam are discontent with Zipporah.
 - a. What is the connection between discontentment and pride?
 - b. Where are you feeling discontent, and how may pride be at work underneath the surface?
4. Pastor and author Tim Keller says, “Pride is a form of cosmic plagiarism.” Pride causes us to forget that everything we have is a gift from God.
 - a. Pause right now and make a list of everything you have to be thankful for. Share some of the more impactful ones with your Grow Group.
 - b. How does recognizing God’s grace towards you, evidenced by these gifts, help inspire humility in your heart?
5. Ken shared 3 ways that are a solution to our pride. Recognize it, Repent of it, and Re-gospel ourselves. Walk through those three steps for where you find pride in your life (See Challenge). Share how God worked in your heart through that exercise with your group.

Challenge: This week, take time to read Psalm 139:23-24. As you read it, pray the words and see what God may reveal to you. Take some time to journal out what God reveals and walk through the solution Ken presented of Recognizing it, Repenting of it, and Re-gospelizing yourself.

Take time to write down every area of your life where you experience discontent. Examine each area of discontent and trace it back to its' source. (For example: I'm discontent at work -> Two people have been promoted over me -> I think I deserved a promotion over those people -> I'm better at my job than those people -> Pride.)

Not all discontent is rooted in pride. For instance, you may be discontent with your salary because it's difficult to pay your bills, not because you think you deserve more money. However, pride often leads to discontent. So, identifying areas of discontent is a helpful exercise in rooting out pride.

Prayer: It is the beginning of a new series. A new year. A new decade. What is something you are longing for that seems humanly impossible? Where do you need God to break through? Where do you need a miracle?

As you reflect on those questions, come up with your "One Big Prayer Request" for the year. Write that down on a note card. Then partner up with someone else in your Grow Group and exchange cards. Pray right then and there for those prayer requests, and commit to praying for that "One Big Prayer Request" all year. Be sure to check-in with each other regularly for updates and encouragement.

STUDY DEEPER

Read "How to Actually Be More Humble" by Matt Ingalls at Relevant Magazine.

<https://relevantmagazine.com/current/how-to-actually-be-more-humble/>