

Sermon Title: Fully Alive- Defeating Pride

Sermon Scripture: 1 Chronicles 21:1-8



Sermon Discussion Guide (7/12)

Begin the discussion by checking in with each person present and share prayer requests/praises with the group. Then, have one person offer a prayer for the group making sure to include any prayer requests that were mentioned earlier.

Scripture

Read 1 Chronicles 21:1-8 out loud. Discuss any initial thoughts you have about these verses.

Observation

What do you notice about how David responds to Joab's words of caution in verse 4? Does David's response in verse 4 reflect the attitude of someone who is humble? If not, what would a humble response from David have looked like once he received this caution from Joab?

In verse 8, how does David describe his action of taking a census? Why do you think David did not realize the gravity of what he had done until after the census was taken?

Read 1 Chronicles 21:9-14. What is the consequence of David's act of pride? What does this consequence reveal to us about the nature of pride in our own lives?

Read John 10:10. What are the implications of this verse for our understanding of pride? What are the implications of this verse for our understanding of humility and dependence on God?

Application

Pride is a false sense of self-sufficiency. Where in the culture do you see self-sufficiency and independence promoted in a way that leads people to pride? How might you be allowing yourself to be influenced by these values of the world so that you also, in some ways, value self-sufficiency and independence in a way that can lead to pride?

Pride always has a cost. Where in your own life have you experienced the cost of pride negatively affecting you or negatively affecting other people? What do you think God was seeking to teach you during this experience?

In Pastor Matt's sermon, he shared a few practices that help us to live dependent upon God, including confession (which can take place in a discipleship band), tithing, Scripture reading, and prayer. Which of these practices is most familiar to you? Which of these practices is the most unfamiliar to you? Is there a practice God is currently inviting you to engage in, either for the first time or in a more intentional way, so that you can live your life more dependent upon God?

Is there anywhere in your life, where you are living or beginning to live in self-sufficiency, without recognizing your need for God? If so, what is one step God is calling you to take this week to repent of pride and to live more dependent upon Him and His sustaining power and grace?

Prayer

Create in me a clean heart, O God. Reveal to me the places where I have given in to pride. Grant within me a repentant heart so that I may turn from pride and seek you with all of my heart. Lead me in living in humility. Sanctify my heart so that I would desire and rejoice in my dependence upon You. Amen.