



**Pastoral Answers to Life's Questions:  
Is There a Cure for Pride?**

**The Original Sin**

What was the first sin ever committed?

- 1 Timothy 3:6 – The sin that resulted in the devil's judgment
- Ezekiel 28:12-15 – Wicked kings sometimes portrayed as a "type" of Satan
- Isaiah 14:12-14 – Five "I-Statements" of Lucifer
- Genesis 3:1-5 – The same pride that corrupted Lucifer in heaven seduced Eve on earth

What is pride?

- Pride is an "I-Disease" – a preoccupation with self (love of self, exaltation of self)
- Pride is self-idolatry
- Andrew Murray – "Self is the whole evil of fallen nature... Self is the root, the branches, the tree, of all the evil of our fallen state."

**Symptoms of Pride**

1. You are self-absorbed
2. You think you're a good person
3. You are blind to your own sin
4. You are quick to point out sin in others
5. You have a critical attitude
6. You're judgmental
7. You're bossy and demanding
8. You're competitive
9. You're afraid of failure
10. You always have to win an argument
11. You boast about your accomplishments
12. You don't like to submit to authority
13. You don't listen to advice
14. You think you have all the answers
15. You find it difficult to ask for help
16. You hide your problems
17. You are easily offended
18. You're defensive when corrected
19. You get angry when faced with flaws
20. You have a hard time saying "I'm sorry"
21. You compare yourself to others
22. You want people to like you
23. You wrestle with insecurity
24. You worry about your looks
25. You try to manage your image
26. You are independent and self-sufficient
27. You rely on own strength, talent & abilities
28. You don't pray much
29. You are a controlling person
30. You are an unforgiving person
31. You lack compassion for others
32. You tend to your own needs before the needs of others

## **The Cure for Pride**

Pride is a false gospel – the gospel of salvation by works... human achievement... self-sufficiency... self-worth. It's trusting in one's "self."

The cure for pride is the gospel of Jesus Christ (Gal. 6:14)

- Worshiping God vs. worshiping self
- Trusting in Christ vs. trusting in self
- Salvation by grace vs. salvation by works

What is humility?

- Humility is selflessness
- Andrew Murray – “We must seek a humility which will rest in nothing less than the end and death of self. . . . Humility is the displacement of self by the enthronement of God. Where God is all, self is nothing.”
- Tim Keller – “Christian humility is not thinking less of yourself; it is thinking of yourself less... It is to be no longer always noticing yourself and how you are doing and how you are being treated. It is blessed self-forgetfulness.”

## **3 Ways to Cultivate Christ-like Humility**

Philippians 2:3-4 – “Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.”

- 1. Do nothing from selfishness**
- 2. Regard others as more important than yourselves**
- 3. Look out for the interests of others**

This is all about developing an others-orientation versus a self-orientation. How are you following the example of Christ and serving others?