

The Pitfall of Pride & the Hollow of Humility

Genesis 3:1-7, James 4:6-10

February 24, 2008

1. Lean In: Introduction Questions

How do you picture pride? What comes to mind? Perhaps you can even recall a specific incident where pride showed its _____ face. How would you describe that face?

2. Look Down: Observation Questions

How does the story of "The Fall of Man" (Gen.3:1-7) relate to the sin of pride? How does the "crafty" serpent's question and questionable comments lead Eve to the fatal edge of temptation? What sinful attitude causes Adam & Eve to act out the original sin? What did they desire to gain by eating the forbidden fruit?

3. Look Out: Understanding Questions

Singer Frank Sinatra is known for one of his golden oldies entitled "I Did it My Way!" Why does that song resonate with so many Americans? What else in our culture and in our everyday lives lures us into the pitfalls of pride?

4. Look In: The Application Questions

Read James 4:1-10. Wow! How does that strike you? Aren't these verses a bit offensive and humiliating? But what's the bottom line? What does God want to give us?

D.L. Moody said, "*God sends no one away empty except those who are full of themselves.*" Can you recount an incident in your life where your humble submission to God led to a renewed realization of God's uplifting grace?

Final Questions:

Has a "long, cold, spiritual winter" caused any potholes and pitfalls of pride to develop in your life? Are you ready to "draw near to God" in the hollow of humility?