



PRIDE FROM
MY KINGDOM COME
TO
THY KINGDOM COME

FFC WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP RESOURCES
TAKE YOU TO GOD'S WORD FOR ANSWERS

PRIDE – WHOSE KINGDOM?

Among us women, pride rears its ugly head in many different ways. When someone reproves us, we do “whatever it takes” to prove we were right and they were wrong—even while we adamantly state that our goal in life is to give God glory. What we say and do in defense of our position proves that it’s our own glory, not God’s, that we are really interested in. Pride pervades our lives, and God hates it. As always, God’s Word gives us the solution—the solution for pride is humility, as modeled by Jesus.

Directions for Study

- When you read the Scripture passages for each point, put a marker into each one. That way you’ll be able to go back and forth between them to answer the questions.
- Review your answers together as a discipleship team. Pray together for humility before you begin.

1. CULTIVATING AN ATTITUDE OF HUMILITY

Psalm 25:9, Psalm 119:33-34

A humble attitude desires to be taught, rather than thinking, “I know everything I need to know.” When we have a prideful attitude, we say, “I know, but...,” and make excuses that show we don’t want to learn. Proud people are not teachable, that means we don’t listen to God either. A humble person can be taught God’s ways.

- Confess that you have been un-teachable, and write down your determination to humble yourself and be taught. _____

2. **SELFISHNESS AND PRIDE GO HAND IN HAND**

Romans 12:3, James 4:10

Pastor Bob always says that if he were to write a book he would call it, “We are Way More Selfish Than we Think We Are.” I believe he says that because he is married to me, and I have bowled him over with my self-focus. When we face reality, it shocks us all to recognize how self-centered and self-oriented our focus is. It is self-importance that says we are right and defends our position. It is high and mighty self-centeredness that obligates God to answer our requests. Humility is required to seek God’s glory rather than our own. When we do, we will be eager and willing to change.

- Identify how you have shown the people close to you that you are focused on getting your desires or defending your position. _____

- Determine to think “God, show me where I’m wrong, and change me for your glory” rather than “I’m right and I will prove it.” Then, will be grateful when you are rebuked. What will you say when you respond to rebuke in this mindset? _____

3. **“I AM WHAT I AM BY GOD’S GRACE” THEREFORE...**

1 Corinthians 15:10, Hebrews 4:14-16

God has given you gifts and abilities, by His grace and for His glory. Are you aware that you desperately need God’s grace in order to do what you are good at for the purpose of serving God and His kingdom instead of your desires? Do you ask Him for humility? While we live on earth in our bodies of death, we must pray often for humility.

- What does it mean in your life that “I am what I am by God’s grace?” Express gratitude to God for how He has made you and that He wants to use you for His glory. Ask Him for humility to serve for His glory instead of your own. _____

FFC WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP

- List ways in which you have been gifted by God to serve others. If you are married, remember that your number one person to serve is your husband. List ways you have been gifted to love and serve him above others (including above your children). _____

4. HUMILITY SERVES

Romans 12:10, Luke 9:23, Philippians 2:3-5

In our pride, rather than preferring others and denying ourselves, we prefer ourselves and deny others. When we humble ourselves by thinking of other's feelings and needs first, then we will serve them and so serve God for His glory.

- List ways you can prefer your husband, your children, your church, neighbors, etc., by using use your time, resources and abilities. _____

5. HUMILITY FORGIVES

Jeremiah 9:23-24, Colossians 3:12

Humility always gives God the credit. Often we say, "Praise God" for all to hear, but in our hearts we are thinking about what we have achieved. We must put on a heart of humility by confessing our sin and being granted forgiveness, then being ready to forgive as we've been forgiven.

- It takes work to put on humility. Humility requires outward praise to God, and an inner attitude of gratitude for forgiveness. What sin have you confessed today? _____

6. **HUMILITY CASTS CARES ON GOD**

1 Peter 5:6-7

We live in a culture that promotes pride and considers self-sufficiency a virtue (especially for women). It will take work to be sure that our day is full of moments of needy dependence upon God, trusting in God, casting a care upon God. Such training can make all the difference in killing pride and maintaining humility in our souls.

- What cares do you need to purposefully cast on God today? _____

7. **HUMILITY EXALTS GOD**

Isaiah 57:15, 1 Peter 4:14-16 & 19, Revelation 5:9-12

Are we willing to suffer humiliation or embarrassment for Jesus' sake? Or do we get discouraged because we insist on exalting ourselves, justifying ourselves, vindicating ourselves? That's pride. Humility exalts Jesus Christ. Exalting the One who is worthy will be the eternal joy of those who humble themselves and entrust themselves to God.

- Write a prayer of praise to God rejoicing in humility and proclaiming His worth. _____

