



**DATE** November 12, 2017

**SPEAKER** David Smith

**TITLE** Reining in Pride

**SERIES** We've all heard of the seven deadly sins, but they don't have anything to do with us. Or, do they? We often don't realize the subtle impact sin has on our daily lives. We need to learn how to recognize it and know how to fight back.

"Pride is the only disease that makes everyone sick but the one who has it." - Buddy Robinson

1. Read Proverbs 16:5 and complete the following:  
Every one that is \_\_\_\_\_ in heart is an \_\_\_\_\_ to the Lord.
2. Believers disagree about whether the devil can destroy our salvation or only our joy and fruitfulness. The Bible repeatedly warns about the power of the devil. What do you believe? Are there scriptures that support for belief?
3. What are some of the common characteristics and habits of people you know whom you would call humble?
4. Read Philippians 2:3-5. What does that mean for our daily lives?
5. Pastor David identified symptoms of pride. What are they?

While pride causes us to filter out the evil we see in ourselves, it also causes us to filter out God's goodness in others. We sift them, letting only their faults fall into our perception of them.

Those who have the sickness of pride in their hearts speak of others' sins with contempt, irritation, frustration, or judgment. Pride is crouching inside our belittling of the struggles of others.

When pride lives in our hearts, we're far more concerned with others' perceptions of us than the reality of our hearts.

Those who stand in the strength of Christ's righteousness alone find a confident hiding place from the attacks of men and Satan alike.

Humility approaches God with humble assurance in Christ Jesus. If either the "humble" or the "assurance" are missing in that equation, our hearts very well might be infected with pride. Some of us have no shortage of boldness before God, but if we're not careful, we can forget that he is God.

Pride is hungry for attention, respect, and worship in all its forms.

Pride prefers some people over others. It honors those who the world deems worthy of honor, giving more weight to their words, their wants, and their needs.

6. Why do you think God hates pride so much?
7. Pride comes before destruction, and an arrogant spirit before a fall. Better to be lowly of spirit with the humble than to divide plunder with the proud (Proverbs 16:18-19). What does this mean for your life?
8. Why do you think Peter especially warns against pride in 1 Peter 5:5-6? Who is he talking to?
9. One antidote to pride is humility. Why do you think that the Bible sometimes refers to humility as being “broken” (some versions say crushed or destroyed)?
10. What words does the Bible associate with humility in the following verses?
  - Psalm 69:32
  - Psalm 149:4
  - Proverbs 15:33; 18:12
  - Colossians 3:12
  - 1 Peter 5:5
11. What connections does Peter make between submission, humility and anxiety? (1 Peter 5:7)
12. Who have you been around that you would consider humble? What impact did that person have on you or others?
13. Pastor Smith describes humility with the following list:
  - Making others the center of attention - Posturing yourself to serve others
  - Doing God's will, whatever the cost
  - Trusting that God can be found in the middle of your pain - Knowing that anxiety separates us from God
  - Understanding that failure is possible
  - Giving God credit for everything

Is there a particular item for which you wish to take action to be more humble? How will you start?