

# PROVERBS

## Week 9: Wisdom and Pride

**Primary Passages:** Proverbs 8:13, 9:7-8, 14:6, 18:12 and 21:24

*“Unchastity, anger, greed, drunkenness, and all that, are mere flea bites in comparison: it was through Pride that the devil became the devil. Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind.”*

- C.S. Lewis

### LifeGroup Study Guide:

**Recap:** Have someone **read Proverbs 8:13, 9:7-8 and 18:12** and recap the big ideas from this week’s sermon.

- Compare and contrast how the Bible and our culture talk about pride (consider how our culture talks about self-esteem).
- In the sermon, we mentioned that pride can show itself in an arrogantly high view of self, but also in a self-consumed low view of self. Which of these do you tend to struggle with more? What root do both of these share in common?

**Diagnosing Pride:** Take some time to individually pray through these diagnostic questions.

- Are you easily angered or annoyed? \_\_\_\_\_.
- Are you easily offended? \_\_\_\_\_.
- Are you slow to ask for help when you need it? \_\_\_\_\_.
- When you are forgotten, neglected, or overlooked, do you feel a disproportionate sting and hurt at the insult? \_\_\_\_\_.
- How often do you compare yourself to others? (Consider intelligence, ability, looks, success, status, possessions, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_.
- Are you caught up in any secret sin and refuse to confess it because you’re concerned with how you would be viewed? \_\_\_\_\_.
- How much do you bring up yourself or make yourself the center of the conversation? \_\_\_\_\_.
- When you are corrected, is your first reaction to defend yourself and/or attack the other person? \_\_\_\_\_.
- At work, do you think more about how frustrating your job is or do you think more about how grateful you are that God has provided work for you? \_\_\_\_\_.
- How much of your life is marked by prayerlessness? (Prayerlessness exposes the prideful belief that you can handle life on your own.) \_\_\_\_\_.
- Are you holding any bitterness against anyone? (Bitterness is the prideful act of putting your pain above God’s command to forgive.) \_\_\_\_\_.

**Confess:** Work through the diagnostic questions as a group, confessing any that stood out as particularly insightful or apparent in your life. Encourage each other with the gospel.

**Read Philippians 2:5-11.** How does meditating on Jesus' highly exalted glory (v. 9-11) help us to have the same humility that Jesus walked in while on earth (v. 5-8)? How can we encourage each other to repent of our pride and walk in humility?

**Pray** for God's Spirit to give us eyes to see our pride.

**Pray** for our minds and hearts to be filled with an awe and love for Jesus that flows into natural concern and love for others.