



*We are in a series on the Seven Deadly Sins. The seven deadly sins are: lust, gluttony, anger/wrath, sloth, greed, envy, and pride. Though this list isn't laid out in any one place in the Bible, Christian pastors and theologians have used this list as a way of identifying common maladies that inhibit us from experiencing a fruitful life.*

- (1) This week we're considering the deadly sin: PRIDE. Pride is an inordinate self love, or living "me first." Pride has long been considered the root or even the deadliest of the deadly sins. Do you agree or disagree and why?
- (2) >>READ>> **Philippians 2.1-11**
- (3) What does this passage teach us about pride and humility?
- (4) What does it mean to count others as more significant than yourself? What does that look like? Can you think of a particular person with whom you deal pridefully, who you need "consider as more significant than yourself"?
- (5) How is the cross a demonstration of Jesus' humility and obedience to the Father (v.8)?
- (6) What was the ultimate outcome of Jesus' humiliation and sacrifice on the cross (vv.9-11)?
- (7) >>READ>> **Luke 18.9-14**
- (8) What does this parable from Jesus teach us about pride and humility?
- (9) In the sermon on Sunday, there were 3 ways to develop humility:
  - (i) Failure & Confession
  - (ii) Showing Gratitude
  - (iii) Service

Of these 3, which is most challenging for you? Which one do you need to work on to develop humility? How are you going to do so?

*Read through the selections on the companion handout. Reflect/comment on the selections that challenge, provoke, intrigue, or resonate with you.*

## Companion Handout

“Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind.” (C.S. Lewis)

“Inordinate self-love is the cause of every sin...The root of pride is found to consist in man not being, in some way, subject to God and His rule.” (Thomas Aquinas)

“In order to overcome their pride, God punishes certain men by allowing them to fall into sins of the flesh, which though they be less grievous are more evidently shameful...From this indeed the gravity of pride is made manifest. For just as a wise physician, in order to cure a worse disease, allows the patient to contract one that is less dangerous, so the sin of pride is shown to be more grievous by the very fact that, as a remedy, God allows men to fall into other sins.” (Thomas Aquinas)

“Pride is spiritual cancer: it eats up the very possibility of love, or contentment, or even common sense.” (C.S. Lewis)

“Whenever we find that our religious life is making us feel that we are good - above all, that we are better than someone else - I think we may be sure that we bring acted on, not by God, but by the devil. The real test of being in the presence of God is, that you either forget about yourself altogether or see yourself as a small, dirty object. It is better to forget about yourself altogether.” (C.S. Lewis)

“Do not imagine that if you meet a really humble man he he will be what most people call ‘humble’...Probably all you will think about him is that he seemed a cheerful, intelligent chap who took a real interest in what you said to him. If you do dislike him it will be because you feel a little envious of anyone who seems to enjoy life so easily. He will not be thinking about humility: he will not be thinking about himself at all.” (C.S. Lewis)

“...own any fault we have. If you have at any time thought, spoken or acted wrong, do not refrain from acknowledging it. Never dream that this will hurt the cause of God - in fact, it will further it. Be open and honest when you are rebuked and do not seek to evade it or disguise it. Rather, let it appear just as it is and you will thereby not hinder but adorn the gospel.” (John Wesley)

“Service is the spiritual discipline most conducive to the growth of humility.” (Richard Foster)

“The more we pursue it [humility] the more distant it becomes. To think we have it is sure evidence that we don’t. Therefore, most us assume there is nothing we can do to gain this prized Christian virtue, and so we do nothing. But there is something we can do...We SERVE... When we set out on a consciously chosen course of action that accents the good of others and is, for the most part, a hidden work, a deep change occurs in our spirits...Nothing disciplines the inordinate desires of the flesh like service, and nothing transforms the desires of the flesh like serving in hiddenness.” (Richard Foster)

“Jesus is the God whom we can approach without pride and before whom we can humble ourselves without despair.” (Blaise Pascal)

“Most of the trouble in the world is caused by people wanting to be important.” (T.S. Eliot)

“Humility does not consist in criticizing yourself, or wearing ragged clothes, or walking around submissively wherever you go. Humility consists in a realistic opinion of yourself, namely, that you are an unworthy person.” (Jeremy Taylor)