

WEEKLY GAME PLAN

At The Center Of Pride Is “I”

Read 1 Peter 5:8-9 NLT, James 1:14 ESV

Context: So often the enemy tries to convince us of the lie that we are alone in our struggles. We are not! There are brothers and sisters all over the world who are going through the same things we are. We need to pay attention to how the enemy tries to exploit our weaknesses. We can resist him.

Reflection Question: What does the enemy want you to believe you are alone in? How can you resist these lies that you are the only one struggling with the sin that plagues you?

Read Luke 18:9-14 NLT

Context: When we recognize exactly who we're praying to, we can't help but fall on our knees in gratitude. If we really consider who God is and who we are in comparison, there's just no way to stand in our own righteousness and goodness. The closer we get to God, the more we understand that we need God and the more that we understand that every good thing is from Him. The only way we can walk away from a time in prayer with God is to recognize that we need His mercy every moment of every day.

Reflection Question: Why do you pray? What reasons do you have to spend time in prayer with God? How much of your prayer life is about you and how much of it is about God?

Read John 3:26-30 NLT

Context: John knew that none of it was about him. It was *all* about Jesus. Everything that he said and everyone that he baptized was about pointing them to Jesus. John didn't want any of the fame, or numbers or notoriety. He just wanted to serve Christ. He knew what his purpose was and he found fulfillment in that purpose. Jesus elevated John because John wanted Jesus to have the spotlight.

Reflection Question: Who gets the credit for the good things in your life? How can you point others to Christ when someone observes something great happening to you? Why is this important?

Read Philippians 2:3-8 NLT

Context: When we consider the example that Jesus set for us, it's much easier to elevate others above ourselves. Not to say that this is easy, especially given how some people treat us. But it is easier to know that we do have an example to follow. And we know that when we look out for the interests of others God will look out for us. We don't have to be worried about getting. We can be content in giving, knowing God will take care of us.

Reflection Question: Why is it hard to look out for others, sometimes at the expense of ourselves? How can we look to Christ's example when this becomes really difficult?

Read 2 Chronicles 7:14 ESV

Context: God knows we are not perfect. He knows we will mess up. He has made a way for us to come back to Him. If we choose to humble ourselves, and seek Him and repent, then He will listen to our prayers and forgive us. There is always a way back to Him. And over, and over again, He will welcome our repentant heart.

Reflection Question: What do you need to repent for this week? If you feel far from God, what do you think stands between you and Him? How can you seek His face?

End in prayer. Pride goes before destruction. Choose humility this week!