

“Remote Controlled”

Killin’ It, Part 1

September 13th & 16th, 2018

We are not talking about a **healthy, good** kind of pride

“...the essential vice, the utmost evil, is pride. Unchastity [not pure, usually associated with sexuality], anger, greed, drunkenness, and all that, are mere flea bites in comparison...Pride leads to every other vice: it is the complete anti-God state of mind.” C.S. Lewis “**Mere Christianity**”

The problem with pride is you can see it in other people in a second, but it is almost **impossible** to see in our own lives

Pride is insidious, ugly, and it rests in **all of us**

What Pride Does In Our Lives...

1. Pride **diminishes** you

Pride promises to make you **big**, but in the end makes you **small**

2. Pride diminishes your **capacity**...

- **Say** what needs to be said
- **Hear** what needs to be heard
- **Give** what needs to be given

Pride diminishes your capacity to give and receive **love**

3. Pride **crowds** out others

When you’re full of you, there’s no room for **anybody else**

Pride **deprioritizes** everybody in the room

4. Pride crowds **God** out

Psalm 10:4 (NCV) “The wicked people are too proud. They do not look for God; there is no room for God in their thoughts.”

Unchecked pride eventually leads to practical **atheism**

For some your pride – not your **intellect** – is **keeping** you from God

5. Pride is a **prison**

Pride shuts us **in** and shuts God and others **out**

What Jesus Can Do In Our Lives

1. When you accept the invitation to follow Jesus, you accept an invitation to **unfollow** pride

2. Jesus taught and modeled a radically **liberating** version of **humility**

Jesus redefined greatness: by how well you **serve** other people, not how well you are **served**

Mark 10:45 (NIV) “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, & to give His life as a ransom for many.”

Matthew 20:16 (GN) “And Jesus concluded, ‘So those who are last will be first, and those who are first will be last.’”

Matthew 5:5 (NIV) “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.”

John 13:14-17 (NIV) “¹⁴ Now that I, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also should wash one another’s feet. ¹⁵ I have set you an example that you should do as I have done for you. ¹⁶ Very truly I tell you, no servant is greater than his master, nor is a messenger greater than the one who sent him. ¹⁷ Now that you know these things, you will be blessed if you do them.”

3. Jesus **initiated** reconciliation

Jesus was **right**, and He was **wronged**, and He initiated reconciliation

2 Corinthians 5:17-20 (NIV) “¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹ that God was reconciling the world to Himself in Christ, not counting people’s sins against them. And He has committed to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰ We are therefore Christ’s ambassadors, as though God were making His appeal through us.”

Pride says, “**Wait!**” Jesus says, “**Initiate!**”

Philippians 2:7-8 (NIV) “He [Jesus] made Himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!”

It takes a radical approach to humility to **kill** pride

4. Jesus says to you and me: “**Follow Me!**”

Matthew 4:19 “Come, follow Me,” Jesus said,...

Pride controls you through your **emotions** not necessarily your intellect

Three Questions

1. How does pride **manifest** itself in you?
2. What does pride **masquerade** itself in you?
3. How much **longer** do you plan to let pride hold the remote?

Why would you continue to embrace and follow something that has the potential to **kill** you, instead of following someone who **died** for you?

Jesus has the power to set you **free**

You will no longer be shut **in**, and God and others will no longer be shut **out**

My Next Step Today Is...

- I have pride issues in my life, and I am asking Christ to help me begin to deal with them.
- I will make time this week to answer the 3 closing questions.

Next week: Join us as we discuss how “Heaven Rules.” Invite a friend!