

[SERMON NOTES]

Keep Your Friends Close and Foes Closer

How Pride and Jealousy Plague the Best of Us

(1 Samuel 18-20)

When we make everything about _____, pride and jealousy are sure to _____.

Pride and jealousy often _____ our _____.

Pride and jealousy breed _____.

We need others to speak _____ our lives, but we still have to _____.

How Do We Fight Off Pride and Jealousy:

1. _____ before _____
2. Helpful _____ with _____
3. Remembering we can't control how others _____, but we can control _____.

Further notes:

[QUICK REVIEW]

Looking at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything you heard for the first time or something that caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

[MY STORY]

Growing up, we sometimes don't realize the effects of our thoughts or actions. **What is something you regret saying or doing when you were younger?**

[DIGGING DEEPER]

Throughout life as we grow in relationship with others and as we mature as human beings, we learn what attributes are attractive and we desire in our friends, family, and ourselves. For example, most of us would prefer gentleness over aggression. **What are some of the more 'attractive' attributes you desire in yourself or others? What are some of the more 'unattractive' attributes?**

Attractive

Unattractive

In the lists above (or at least you would agree) that **pride & jealousy** would be deemed unattractive and **humility** is one of the more attractive traits people can have. In our message this weekend, we learned how pride and jealousy plague us all and how to fend it off in our own lives. **Describe the difference between pride, jealousy, and humility in your own words.**

Arguably, one of the most important traits about Jesus was His humility (see *Philippians 2*). Think about the *humility* it took to become human, live on this earth, and then die a death on the cross you did not deserve! One does not accomplish that without supernatural humility! I think it's safe to say that humility looks good on everyone and we look more like Jesus as we seek to humble ourselves before God. **C.S. Lewis, 'humility is not thinking less of yourself, rather thinking of yourself less.'** **Explain how this applies to the life and actions of Jesus.**

Humility is one of those things that you "know it when you see it" - and you certainly can't claim to have it! - even though we are called to pursue it. Pastor Rich Villodas poses some great questions for a personal *Humility Inventory*. **Read the questions below and mark on a scale of 1-10 how you think you are living these out. Then write out a personal challenge of how to pursue humility this next week.**

Humility Inventory by Rich Villodas (edited & taken from his personal instagram page: @richvillodas)

1. How do you respond when you are corrected?
2. How willing are you to admit that you are wrong?
3. When was the last time you invited someone to teach you about a topic?
4. When was the last time you changed your mind about an important issue?

My personal challenge:

[WEEKLY READINGS]

Studies say that someone who reads their Bible 4 times or more a week improves their joy, happiness, contentment, and overall approval of their life. (*1 Tim. 4:8-10,16; 2 Tim. 3:16-17*). Below are 4 passages of Scripture this week to dive into to pull deeper on our weekend's message. We encourage you to take notes in your Bible, and ask yourself: *What does this teach me about God? Myself and others? And how do I follow Jesus better?*

1 Samuel 18

1 Samuel 19-20

Psalms 59

Philippians 2