

Sermon series: Fight for Joy!
Text: Daniel 4:28-37
Delivered: February 21st, 2021

Joy vs Pride

Big Idea: The battle with pride is won by fixing our eyes on the greatness of God.

Definition: *Thinking much _____ oneself and much _____ oneself.*

The Methods of Pride (How does pride attack us?) *Daniel 4:28-30; Luke 18:9-12*

- Pride attacks with self-_____.
 - Because I am _____, I am important.
 - Because I did _____, I am important.
 - Because I have _____, I am important.
- Pride attacks with self-_____.
- Pride attacks with self-_____.

"The devil laughs. He is perfectly content to see you becoming chaste and brave and self-controlled provided, all the time, he is setting up in you the Dictatorship of Pride." -C.S. Lewis

The Madness of Pride (What makes pride so foolish?) *Daniel 4:31-33*

- Pride seeks to _____ God as King.
- Pride seeks to _____ God of glory.

The Medicine for Pride (Where do we find a cure for pride?) *Daniel 4:34-37*

- See the greatness of God in _____.
- See the greatness of God in His _____.
- See the greatness of God in His _____.
- See the greatness of God in our _____.

"Is not the most effective way of bridling my delight in being made much of, to focus on making much of God? Self-denial and crucifixion of the flesh are essential, but O how easy it is to be made much of even for my self-denial! How shall this insidious motive of pleasure in being made much of be broken except through bending all of my faculties to delight in the pleasure of making much of God!" -John Piper

Citizens of God's kingdom are humble _____.



- Does it sound good or bad to you to say your life's entire purpose is to make much of God? Why might some people find this offensive?
- Which of the methods of pride attacks you the most? What are some other ways pride attacks us beyond the three given?
- Use the following questions to help diagnose other areas of pride in your life:
 - *Where and how are you most likely to look down on other people?*
 - *When do you feel most self-conscious about yourself and about what other people think about you?*
 - *Where do you get angry or overly upset if you are criticized?*
 - *What do you tend to take credit for in your life rather than giving credit to God?*
- What are some areas you might be prone to think "I know better than God," "God isn't enough," or "I can't trust God to meet my needs"?
- What are the things in your life that you are most tempted to take credit for rather than giving all the credit to God?
- Out of the four ways given to see the greatness of God, which do you think is the most helpful for you? What are some other ways you might fix your eyes on the greatness of God?
- Are there other things that you have found helpful in fighting pride in your own life?