



Saying No to Pride
Psalm 10:4; Philippians 2:7-8
Message from Pastor Martin Hawley
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Bottom Line: Pride crowds God and others out of your life.

Introduction:

There's something that rises up in you that **keeps** you from ...

- Celebrating other people's successes.
- Initiating an apology when you know you're wrong.
- Being honest with yourself and others.
- Admitting you're lost (or) Admitting you've lost.

Admitting you don't know what you're doing.

There's something that rises up in you that **causes** you to ...

- Power up when you should be opening up.
- Cheat before you allow yourself to lose.
- Have to have the final word.
- Buy things to impress people who aren't even paying attention to you...

That something is **pride**.

*Unchastity, anger, greed, drunkenness ...
are mere flea bites in comparison.
Pride leads to every other vice.
-- C. S. Lewis, Mere Christianity*

Pride diminishes you.

Pride diminishes your capacity.

Pride crowds others out.

Pride crowds God out.

*In his pride the wicked does not seek him;
in all his thoughts there is no room for God.
-- Psalm 10:4*

Pride is a prison.

Is shuts you in and shuts God and others out.

When you accept the invitation to follow Jesus, you accept an invitation to un-follow pride.

Greatness is measured in terms of service (Matthew 20:28).

The “meek” shall inherit the earth (Matthew 5:5).

Jesus washed his **followers’** feet.

Jesus **initiated** reconciliation. Don’t wait, initiate!

Philippians 2:7-8, “He [Jesus] made himself **nothing**, taking the very nature of a **servant**, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, he **humbled** himself and become obedient to death – even death on a cross.”

Three questions to identify **pride** in your life?

1. How does pride manifest itself in you?
2. What does pride masquerade as in you?
3. How much longer do you plan to let pride control you?

Conclusion:

Don’t play with pride. Destroy it!

Say, “Pride, you are not my master, warden, boss, or boyfriend.”

Watch this pride, I’m going to ... apologize, compliment, write a thank you note, listen and keep my mouth shut, stop arguing, double the tip, admit that I can’t keep up, and tell my Community Group that ...

I’m refusing to be *small* anymore.

I’m going to *kill* my pride before it *kills* me.

NEXT STEPS:

- Memorize: Philippians 2:7-8.**
- Meditate on How Pride Manifests in My Life.**
- Take Going to _____ to Kill My Pride this Week.**