**Love is not Arrogant or Prideful**

Pride is self-respect or improper and excessive self-esteem known as conceit or arrogance.

Pride infects our eyesight, causing us to view ourselves through a lens that colors and distorts reality.

Pride can be defined as elevating one`s opinions and thoughts above God`s authoritative Word.

Pride is refusing to see yourself as God sees you. Ultimately, pride is extreme love and focus on oneself.

Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before stumbling. It is better to be humble in spirit with the needy than to divide the spoils with the proud. One who pays attention to the word will find good and blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord. Proverbs 16:18,19

Every one that is proud in heart is an abomination to the Lord; though hand join in hand, he shall not be unpunished. Proverbs 16:5

Satan was cast out of heaven because of pride. Isaiah 14:12-15

Uzziah was successful until he thought he was above God’s laws. 2 Chronicles 26

The Parable of the Guests Luke 14

 **Indicators of Pride**

 You take things personally

 Your feelings are the most reasonable

 You think you know better than others

 Your desires are most important

 You always think it’s another person that should apologize or change

 You tend to be negative and critical instead of thankful

 You keep thinking other people need to hear this

 **God Honors Humility**

1. **Remember God knows best** -

For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways, My ways,” declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways. (Isaiah 55:8-9)

 If it breaks God’s heart, why do you think it will fulfill yours? Rich Wilkerson

This is God’s universe, God does things His way, now you may think you have another way but you don’t have a universe. J Vernon Magee

1. **Clothe yourself in humility** -

Therefore, as God`s chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, *humility*, gentleness and patience. Col. 3:12

Likewise, you who are younger, be subject to the elders. Clothe yourselves, all of you, with *humility* toward one another, for "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

*Humble yourselves*, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you.

Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. I Peter 5:5-8

1. **Humble yourself like Jesus –**

Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility consider one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who as he already existed in the form of God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped but emptied Himself …..Philippians 2;3-10

 Meekness is not weakness.

1. **Set your mind on His kingdom -**

As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy.

They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share,

thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life. I Tim. 6;17-19

 **“*Humility* is not thinking less of yourself but thinking of yourself less.”**

 **C.S. Lewis**

 **Discussion questions**

1. What is something thing God has revealed to you this morning about pride or humility?
2. What is more difficult for you - believing that God knows best, or choosing to approach something with humility and allowing others to be more important than yourself?
3. Share about a time you humbled yourself and experienced God “raising you up” as a result? (the last shall be first, the first shall be last)
4. What are some areas you/we want to challenge God’s perspective, thinking we know better?
5. Share about an area you want to posture yourself with an attitude of humility rather than pride.