

HUMAN: B(R)OUGHT TO LIFE

HEZEKIAH

Pride sneaks into hearts, undetected, and can cause major damage. It blinds us to opportunities to share Jesus with others, as it shifts our focus from Him onto ourselves. The antidote to pride is humility, modelled by Jesus.

Thinking Points:

1. In 2 Kings 18:5-7, we learn that King Hezekiah 'trusted in the Lord' and that 'there was no one like him among all the kings of Judah, before or after him.' Despite his deep relationship with God, pride still found a way to sneak in. Can you think of a time where pride snuck up on you?
2. Read 2 Kings 20: 1-15. It is easy to connect with God when we have an obvious need, but often after that need is met, we forget and lose awareness of Him. Hezekiah had the incredible opportunity to showcase God to the Babylonian ambassadors. Have you ever missed an opportunity to showcase the Lord? Or did you grab the opportunity and showcase him well?
3. In each of those moments, who were you trying to impress? Where was your focus?

Next Steps

1. The antidote to pride is humility; humility comes from Jesus Himself. See Philippians 2:5-8.
2. As a Jesus-follower, we adopt His mindset. There is no perfect checklist for how to get rid of pride, only a perfect example. Can you think of a bible story that portrays Christ's humility? How did Jesus humble Himself? How did the people around Him respond?
3. When we empty ourselves of pride, we are in the optimal position to be used by God. Giving up control of our pride is a daily choice we need to make. It can be as simple as apologizing, admitting you're wrong, celebrating someone else's success or putting someone else's needs above our own. How can you empty yourself of pride today?

“As we follow Jesus we get an opportunity to unfollow pride.”

ANDY STANLEY

Life isn't about being the best or being right all of the time. When we take up this challenge to adopt the same mindset as Christ, we are making our 'why' so much bigger. We are showcasing Him. His love, His grace and His humility. We empty ourselves to be filled by Him.

PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8

“In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; rather, He made Himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled himself by becoming obedient to death - even death on a cross!”