



Deeper Application Message Guide

“Captive - Part 2 ”

Speaker: Pastor Jeff Love

Week of July 4, 2010

Getting Started

- 1) When you think of *pride* what is the first word that comes to mind? Discuss some examples of what pride can look like.

- 2) Is it OK to have any kind of pride in our lives? Explain.
 - a) Selfish pride is defined as “excessive confidence or glorification in one’s self, possessions or nation”. What determines the difference between selfish pride and a healthy self-confidence? Is there such thing as a healthy self-confidence?

Into the Bible

- 3) Read **Philippians 2:1-4 (read multiple versions)**
Why is it so easy to have selfish pride in our day to day lives?
 - a) Read **Isaiah 14:13-14**
When you hear terms like “you deserve it” or “you have to love yourself before you can love anyone else”, do you think these statements are related to selfish pride or a healthy self-confidence?

 - b) What is the underlying desire of selfish pride? How come it is so prevalent in our society?

- 4) Read **Proverbs 16:5** then **Isaiah 2:11**
Last week we talked about how the only way to please God is to have faith in Him (Hebrews 11:5-6) Why does God get so angry with pride? What are we saying to Him when selfish pride is found in us?
 - a) Selfish pride is a direct assault on God and immediately stops the progress of our spiritual maturity. When we feel far from God or as if He does not care about our lives it can be discouraging. Because of our pride He seems silent it can be the roadblock to our joy and peace. Read **James 4:6**

- 5) Read **James 4:8-10** and **Proverbs 22:1-4**
Selfish pride causes us to disconnect from God and others, yet humility brings life and honor.

Why is our pride so difficult to surrender when it does so much damage to our relationships and our joy?

Digging Deeper

- 6) Spend this week seeking out the areas of your life where selfish pride has taken root. Ask your spouse, friends and those you trust to help you identify the pride in your life. Then humble yourself before God, ask forgiveness and make amends where needed.

Consider this statement....

“A proud man is always looking down on things and people; and, of course, as long as you're looking down, you can't see something that's above you.”

- C.S. Lewis