



THE LOVE CHALLENGE
Part 5 – Love Is Humble
I Corinthians 13:1-4

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I. WHAT ARE INDICATORS OF **NEGATIVE** PRIDE?

A. We refuse to submit to **God's** control.

Psalm 10:4 (NIV) “In his pride the wicked does not seek God; in all his thoughts there is no room for God.”

Proverbs 16:18 (NLT) “Pride goes before destruction, and haughtiness before a fall.”

B. We lift ourselves up by **tearing** someone else down.

Luke 18:11-14 “The Pharisee stood up and prayed about himself: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men-- robbers, evildoers, adulterers-- or even like this tax collector. 12 I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ 13”But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, ‘God, have mercy on me, a sinner.’ 14 “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

C. We become **inflated** about our own strengths.

Daniel 4:27-31 (NIV) “Therefore, O king, be pleased to accept my advice: Renounce your sins by doing what is right, and your wickedness by being kind to the oppressed. It may be that then your prosperity will continue.” 28 All this happened to King Nebuchadnezzar. 29 Twelve months later, as the

king was walking on the roof of the royal palace of Babylon, ³⁰ he said, "Is not this the great Babylon I have built as the royal residence, by my mighty power and for the glory of my majesty?" ³¹ The words were still on his lips when a voice came from heaven, "This is what is decreed for you, King Nebuchadnezzar: Your royal authority has been taken from you."

II. ARROGANCE DAMAGES RELATIONSHIPS.

A. Arrogance injures our relationship with **God**.

James 4:6 "God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble."

Proverbs 16:5 "Pride disgusts the Lord. Take my word for it --proud men shall be punished."

Psalm 138:6 "Though the LORD is on high, He looks upon the lowly, but the proud He knows from afar."

B. Pride creates and maintains **conflicts** with others.

Proverbs 13:10 "Pride leads to conflicts..."

C. Pride destroys **intimacy** with those closest to us.

D. Pride always **postpones** reconciliation of broken relationships.

Proverbs 28:13 "A man who refuses to admit his mistakes can never be successful."

III. LOVE, THAT BUILDS STRONG RELATIONSHIPS, IS **HUMBLE**.

A. Humility maintains a **realistic** view of ourselves and accepts ourselves as who God created us to be.

Romans 12:3 "Don't cherish exaggerated ideas of yourself or your importance. But try to have a sane estimate of your capabilities." (paraphrase)

B. Finding a **balanced view** of ourselves is healthy.

Romans 15:5-7 "May the God who gives endurance and encouragement give you a spirit of unity among yourselves as you follow Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that with one heart and mouth you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God."
