

UN-PRIDEFUL

Ephesians 5:1, Luke 18:9-14 & Matthew 5:16

Un Week 4

*“Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are His dear children.”* – Ephesians 5:1 (NLT)

“To be judgmental is to point out something that is wrong in someone else’s life, making the person feel put down, excluded, and marginalized. Some part of their potential to be Christ followers is snuffed out. Being judgmental is fueled by self-righteousness the misguided inner motivation to make our life look better by comparing it to the lives of others.” – David Kinnaman

Spiritual pride is when we FIND our VALUE and our MEANING in ourselves, in what we ACCOMPLISH and how we COMPARE ourselves to others, rather than FINDING our IDENTITY in Christ.

*“To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people—robbers, evildoers, adulterers—or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.’ - Luke 18:9-12*

SPIRITUAL PRIDE/JUDGEMENTALISM PROMISES:

1. Us self-SUFFICIENCY.
2. Us self-IMPORTANCE.
3. Us self-EXALTATION.

THE PROBLEM WITH SPIRITUAL PRIDE/JUDGEMENTALISM:

- 1) When we are full of OURSELVES, there is no room for GOD.

*“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.’ “I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”* – Luke 18:13-14

2) When we EMPTY ourselves, we are in the perfect position to be FILLED by God's GRACE.

*"You're cheating on God. If all you want is your own way, flirting with the world every chance you get, you end up enemies of God and His way. And do you suppose God doesn't care? The proverb has it that "He's a fiercely jealous lover." And what He gives in love is far better than anything else you'll find. It's common knowledge that "God goes against the willful proud; God gives grace to the willing humble." – James 4:4-6 (The Message)*

3) When we EMPTY ourselves, we are in the perfect position to be USED by God.

Pride is about MY glory; humility is about GOD'S glory!

*"In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." - Matthew 5:16*