



Part 3: Pride's Destructive Presence

Begin

[Daniel 5:17-21](#)

Then Daniel answered the king, "You may keep your gifts for yourself and give your rewards to someone else. Nevertheless, I will read the writing for the king and tell him what it means. "Your Majesty, the Most High God gave your father Nebuchadnezzar sovereignty and greatness and glory and splendor. Because of the high position he gave him, all the nations and peoples of every language dreaded and feared him. Those the king wanted to put to death, he put to death; those he wanted to spare, he spared; those he wanted to promote, he promoted; and those he wanted to humble, he humbled. But when his heart became arrogant and hardened with pride, he was deposed from his royal throne and stripped of his glory. He was driven away from people and given the mind of an animal; he lived with the wild donkeys and ate grass like the ox; and his body was drenched with the dew of heaven, until he acknowledged that the Most High God is sovereign over all kingdoms on earth and sets over them anyone he wishes.

Reflect

- What is God revealing to you about Himself through this passage or this past week's teaching?
- What action is God calling you to live out because of this passage and/or teaching?
- How can we, as a group, help you with the action God is calling you to?

Review

In the *Mere Christianity*, C.S. Lewis writes, "Pride is spiritual cancer: it eats up the very possibility of love, or contentment, or even common sense." Pride is a silent killer that creeps up on us and displays itself through self-righteousness, arrogance, and stubbornness. If we are not careful, pride can easily damage our relationship with God and others.

- How does pride manifest itself in your life?
- How does pride effect your relationship with God and others?
- What ways can you disrupt and counter pride in your life?

PRAY

Take some time to pray for those you are gathered with. Along with prayer requests, pray that God will give you a heart of humility and to make known the areas in your life that are controlled by pride.