



Rock Point Church
Hunter Perry | 06.08.2024

BIG IDEA | Pride does the right thing for the wrong reason.

Matthew 6:1-4 (NLT)

¹ "Watch out! Don't do your good deeds publicly, to be admired by others, for you will lose the reward from your Father in heaven. ² When you give to someone in need, don't do as the hypocrites do—blowing trumpets in the synagogues and streets to call attention to their acts of charity! I tell you the truth, they have received all the reward they will ever get. ³ But when you give to someone in need, don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing. ⁴ Give your gifts in private, and your Father, who sees everything, will reward you."

Matthew 5:48 (NLT)

⁴⁸ "But you are to be perfect, even as your Father in heaven is perfect."

Teleios: Having reached its end; complete

Matthew 5:20 (NLT)

²⁰ "But I warn you—unless your righteousness is better than the righteousness of the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven!"

Isaiah 14:13-14 (NLT)

¹³ For you said to yourself,

'I will ascend to heaven and set my throne above God's stars.

**I will preside on the mountain of the gods
far away in the north.**

**¹⁴ I will climb to the highest heavens
and be like the Most High.'**

Three Symptoms of Pride:

- 1. You live for applause.**
- 2. You only do good to be seen as good.**
- 3. You feel accepted through attention.**

Genesis 4:3-12 (NLT)

³ When it was time for the harvest, Cain presented some of his crops as a gift to the Lord. ⁴ Abel also brought a gift—the best portions of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The Lord accepted Abel and his gift,⁵ but he did not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain very angry, and he looked dejected.

⁶ "Why are you so angry?" the Lord asked Cain. "Why do you look so dejected? ⁷"You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master."

⁸ One day Cain suggested to his brother, "Let's go out into the fields." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother, Abel, and

killed him.

⁹ Afterward the Lord asked Cain, “Where is your brother? Where is Abel?”

“I don’t know,” Cain responded. “Am I my brother’s guardian?”

¹⁰ But the Lord said, “What have you done? Listen! Your brother’s blood cries out to me from the ground! ¹¹ Now you are cursed and banished from the ground, which has swallowed your brother’s blood. ¹² No longer will the ground yield good crops for you, no matter how hard you work! From now on you will be a homeless wanderer on the earth.”

Three Solutions to Pride:

1. Search your soul.

Genesis 4:7-8 (NLT)

⁷ You will be accepted if you do what is right. But if you refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin is crouching at the door, eager to control you. But you must subdue it and be its master.”

⁸ One day Cain suggested to his brother, “Let’s go out into the fields.” And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother, Abel, and killed him.

Psalms 139:23-24 (NLT)

²³ Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts.

²⁴ Point out anything in me that offends you, and lead me along the path of everlasting life.

2. Do good to be good.

Matthew 6:2 (NLT)

² When you give to someone in need, don't do as the hypocrites do—blowing trumpets in the synagogues and streets to call attention to their acts of charity! I tell you the truth, they have received all the reward they will ever get.

James 4:1-8 (NLT)

¹ What is causing the quarrels and fights among you? Don't they come from the evil desires at war within you? ² You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous of what others have, but you can't get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them. Yet you don't have what you want because you don't ask God for it. ³ And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.

⁴ You adulterers! Don't you realize that friendship with the world makes you an enemy of God? I say it again: If you want to be a friend of the world, you make yourself an enemy of God.⁵ Do you think the Scriptures have no meaning? They say that God is passionate that the spirit he has placed within us should be faithful to him. ⁶ And he gives grace generously. As the Scriptures say, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble."

⁷ So humble yourselves before God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸ Come close to God, and God will come close to you. Wash your hands, you sinners; purify your hearts, for your loyalty is divided between God and the world.

3. Be good in private.

1 Thessalonians 4:11 (NLT)

¹¹ Make it your goal to live a quiet life, minding your own business and working with your hands, just as we instructed you before.

Matthew 6:3-4 (NLT)

³ But when you give to someone in need, don't let your left hand know what your right hand is doing. ⁴ Give your gifts in private, and your Father, who sees everything, will reward you."

GROUPS QUESTIONS:

- 1. What stood out to you about this week's sermon?**
- 2. Talk about a time when you did the right thing, but for the wrong reasons. What were your motivations behind that action? Why can it be easy for people to do the right thing for the wrong reasons?**
- 3. Where have you seen the three symptoms of pride in your own life or the lives of others?**
- 4. How does our culture promote pride and approval through social media and other means? In what ways do you see this impacting individuals' motivations for their actions?**
- 5. Read Matthew 6:1-4. How can you apply the three solutions in your daily life to combat prideful motivations?**
- 6. How does Pastor Vern Wigger's example challenge our understanding of service and humility? How can we follow his example of quiet obedience in our own lives?**