

Heroes

Kryptonite (Wk.3)

LifeNotes

TALK IT OVER

Main Idea

A hero's greatest kryptonite is pride.

Key Scripture

He told another parable—this one addressed to people who were confident in their self-righteousness and looked down on other people with disgust. Imagine two men walking up a road, going to the temple to pray. One of them is a Pharisee and the other is a despised tax collector. Once inside the temple, the Pharisee stands up and prays this prayer in honor of himself: “God, how I thank You that I am not on the same level as other people—crooks, cheaters, the sexually immoral—like this tax collector over here. Just look at me! I fast not once but twice a week, and I faithfully pay my tithes on every penny of income.” Over in the corner, the tax collector begins to pray, but he won’t even lift his eyes to heaven. He pounds on his chest in sorrow and says, “God, be merciful to me, a sinner!” Now imagine these two men walking back down the road to their homes. Listen, it’s the tax collector who walks home clean before God, and not the Pharisee, because whoever lifts himself up will be put down and whoever takes a humble place will be lifted up. Luke 18:9-14

Additional Scripture

Psalm 10:4; Proverbs 16:18

If you don’t take pride down, it will take you out.

Two ways pride presents itself

1. **Pride can be loud and boastful.**
2. **Pride can be quiet and judgmental.**

The Antidote to Pride

1. **Recognize it.** Call it out.
2. **Repent of it.** Walk away from it.
3. **Let God Redeem it.** Take it to the cross.

Start talking.

- What are examples of people taking credit for something God has accomplished?
- How do people attempt to take the glory that belongs to God for themselves?
- How are both examples of pride?

Start thinking.

- Read Psalm 10:4. How does pride “push out” thoughts of God?
- Read Proverbs 16:18. What are some destructive impacts you’ve witnessed from pride?
- Read Luke 18:9-14. What are the differences that jump out to you between the two characters?

Start sharing.

- How have you seen pride steal, kill, and destroy in your own life?
- Pride often looks loud and boastful, but often hides in the quiet judgement and contempt we have toward others. In what ways are you susceptible to each?
- Would others say you spend more time telling or listening?
- Joel shared how pride was a “legacy” sin in his family. How do you see pride impacting previous, current, and future generations in your family?

Start doing.

- First, we must **recognize** areas of pride. What are the most common ones for you?
- Second, we need to confess those things to Christ and **repent** of them. What does it look like to walk away from those destructive pride habits?
- Lastly, we need to take our sinful pride to Jesus and allow it to be crucified and **redeemed** in us. How will you take pride to Jesus this week?

Closing prayer.

Whether loud and boastful or quiet and judgmental, pride preys upon us all. As you close in prayer, ask for the Holy Spirit to reveal your pride. Though it can be painful, get deeply honest with yourself and Jesus. As those areas are brought to light seek his courage and strength to turn from them and embrace the new life He invites you to live through his work on the cross. Read Galatians 2:20.