

## Growing Deeper Continued

- What makes Pride one of the 7 deadly sins? James 4:6b says, “God is opposed to the proud but gives grace to the humble.” The word for “opposed,” is the Greek word “antitasso,” which means: “warfare; to battle against.” In today’s vernacular it could be stated like this: “God is at war and battles against the proud.” Explain why you think God battles so vehemently against those who are proud?
- Pastor Matthew mentioned several “safeguards” for protecting oneself from the sin of pride. Make a list and discuss them as a group.
- In some way every believer does suffer from the sin of pride. What did Pastor Matthew say is the best way of acknowledging and dealing with pride? (Cf. James 4:7-10).

### Taking it Home

- Go to your quiet place and communicate with God: Ask Him to reveal if there is a spirit of self-reliance, arrogance, a non-teachable spirit or pride that exists in within you. If God reveals to you some measure of pride:
  - Acknowledge your sin to God, repent of the sin (1 John 1:9), and humble yourself before God (James 4:10).
- Pastor Marty often says, “Embracing the reality of our brokenness will always lead to repentance.” This week, look back at the place from where God has delivered you; recognize your brokenness and God’s grace which has saved you. This self-examination will lead to repentance and renewal.

7 Deadly Sins  
Pride  
1 Chronicles 21

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Bethel Church  
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## Pride

Notes:

For more information about Growth Groups, Growth Group homework, and a podcast of sermons with homework, visit [www.bethelc.com](http://www.bethelc.com)

# Growth Group Homework

For the week of September 19, 2010

1 Chronicles 21

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**Quick Review:** In the later part of David's illustrious position as King of Israel, he does something that truly angers the Lord God; David takes a census of Israel's military strength. This act incurred divine displeasure because it suggested that he was relying more on military capabilities than on God's power. Even in the godliest leader pride can creep into a man's heart, subtly, overtaking his/her thinking and behavior.

## My Story

- Success can be fantastic, but it can also be negative. Do you know, or have known someone who has been extremely successful in their career, business, or financially, who because of their self made success, has drifted into pride or arrogance? Without naming the person describe the symptoms of the pride.
- Sometimes Christians can subtly rely upon other things, or people more than God. Only when the believer is to the place of complete brokenness do they recognize their error and get right with God. Share a personal experience you're familiar with that mimics this scenario.
- From your perspective, list some of the symptoms or traits of pride. Are there some personal methods you use to accurately gauge whether you've slipped into the sin of pride? Share them.

## Growing Deeper

- Pastor Matthew defined the sin of pride as, "exaggerated self-esteem; a departure from a sober self assessment, inwardly where a person elevates themselves more than what is real." What does that mean? Read and interpret 1 John 2:15-16.
- Read Exodus 30:12-14. What instructions did God give Moses about taking a census of the people in Israel? According to God's Word, what was the proper way of taking a census and what were the repercussions if they did not take the census the way the Lord God instructed them? What was the punishment of David's sin of numbering the fighting men of Israel (Cf. 1 Chron. 21:12-14)?
- Make a list of the reasons Pastor Matthew gave you about why King David had allowed himself to become prideful.
- Read 1 Chron. 21:8; 21:16-17. What did King David do once he recognized He had sinned against God?
- How could a man like David, who God said was "a man after God's own heart," sin so frequently and so terribly and still be considered a giant of faith in God's eyes?
- The first sin against God was the sin of pride by Lucifer, God's greatest angelic creation. Read Isaiah 14:12-15 & Ezekiel 28:12-15, & 1 Timothy 3:6. Make a list of the 5 "I will's" of Satan's pride. What caused Lucifer (AKA, Satan) to fall even after being the closest Cherub to God?