

**“Gideon, Part 2”**

*Sermon Notes*

- **Each and every moment of our Christian lives, pride is our greatest enemy and humility our greatest friend**

-John Stott (1921-2011)

*\*Gideon reminds us that when we walk in pride...*

1. Prepare for divine humiliations (7:1-18)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. Anticipate interpersonal complications (7:19-8:21)
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
3. Brace for spiritual devastation (8:22-32)

**Next Sunday: Judges 8:33-9:57 - “Abimelech”**

## Community Group Study Guide

For the Week of February 19th-25th

*Brothers and sisters, the following list of 30 manifestations of pride, if you let it examine your heart...is crushing. Remember: pride is a shape-shifter, capable of being expressed as self-loving or self-loathing. Pride is thinking much of yourself or about yourself. Pride is not so much one of the seven deadly sins but the soil in which the seeds of all the others grow. Work through this list and the accompanying Scriptures on your own, but beware of self-deception. We desperately need the perspective of other believers for a proper self-diagnosis. So make sure you study this alongside your family or Community Group as well. Which of these manifestations are most descriptive of your own life? Finally, don't stop there. Once you've reflected on this list continue on to: "How to Weaken Pride and Cultivate Humility: A List of Suggestions" by C.J. Mahaney. You'll be glad you did!*

### **"30 Manifestations of Pride"**

**by Stuart Scott<sup>1</sup>**

1. Complaining against or passing judgment on God  
(Numbers 14:1-4, 9, 11; Romans 9:20)
2. A lack of gratitude in general  
(2 Chronicles 32:25)
3. Anger  
(Matthew 20:1-16)
4. Seeing yourself as better than others  
(Luke 7:36-50)
5. Having an inflated view of your importance, gifts, or abilities  
(1 Corinthians 4:7)
6. Being focused on the lack of gifts and abilities  
(1 Corinthians 12:14-25)
7. Perfectionism  
(Matthew 23:24-28)
8. Talking too much  
(Proverbs 10:19)
9. Talking too much about yourself  
(Proverbs 27:2; Galatians 6:3)
10. Seeking independence or control

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<sup>1</sup> This remarkable resource can be found in a booklet we carry in Fellowship Hall by Stuart Scott titled: "From Pride to Humility: A Biblical Perspective". Focus Publishing: Bemidji, MN. 2000. pp.6-11. It was originally featured in Stuart Scott's book, *The Exemplary Husband: A Biblical Perspective*. Revised Edition. Focus Publishing: Bemidji, MN. 2002.

(1 Corinthians 1:10-13; Ephesians 5:21)

11. Being consumed with what others think  
(Galatians 1:10)
12. Being devastated or angered by criticism  
(Proverbs 13:1)
13. Being unteachable  
(Proverbs 19:20; John 9:13-34)
14. Being sarcastic, hurtful, or degrading  
(Proverbs 12:18, 23)
15. A lack of service  
(Galatians 5:13; Ephesians 2:10)
16. A lack of compassion  
(Matthew 5:7; 18:23-25)
17. Being defensive or blame-shifting  
(Genesis 3:12-13; Proverbs 12:1)
18. A lack of admitting when you are wrong  
(Proverbs 10:17)
19. A lack of asking forgiveness  
(Matthew 5:23-24)
20. A lack of biblical prayer  
(Luke 18:10-14)
21. Resisting authority or being disrespectful  
(1 Peter 2:13-17)
22. Voicing preferences or opinions when not asked  
(Philippians 2:1-4)
23. Minimizing your own sin and shortcomings  
(Matthew 7:3-5)
24. Maximizing others' sin and shortcomings  
(Matthew 7:3-5; Luke 18:9-14)
25. Being impatient or irritable with others.  
(Ephesians 4:31-32)
26. Being jealous or envious  
(1 Corinthians 13:4)
27. Using others  
(Matthew 7:12; Philippians 2:3-4)
28. Being deceitful by covering up sins, faults, and mistakes  
(Proverbs 11:3; 28:13)
29. Using attention-getting tactics  
(1 Peter 3:3-4)

30. Not having close relationships  
(Proverbs 18:1-2; Hebrews 10:24-25)

***“How to Weaken Pride and Cultivate Humility:  
A List of Suggestions”***

By C.J. Mahaney<sup>2</sup>

**ALWAYS:**

1. Reflect on the wonder of the cross of Christ.

**AS EACH DAY BEGINS:**

2. Begin your day by acknowledging your dependence upon God and your need for God.
3. Begin your day by expressing gratefulness to God.
4. Practice the spiritual disciplines - prayer, study of God's Word, worship. Do this consistently each day and at the day's outset, if possible.
5. Seize your commute to memorize and meditate on Scripture.
6. Cast your cares upon Him, for He cares for you.

**AS EACH DAY ENDS:**

7. At the end of the day, transfer the glory to God.
8. Before going to sleep, receive the gift of sleep from God and acknowledge God's purpose for sleep.

**FOR SPECIAL FOCUS:**

9. Study the attributes of God.
10. Study the doctrines of grace.
11. Study the doctrine of sin.
12. Play golf as much as possible.
13. Laugh often, and laugh often at yourself.

**THROUGHOUT YOUR DAYS AND WEEKS:**

14. Identify evidences of grace in others.
15. Encourage and serve others each and every day.
16. Invite and pursue correction.
17. Respond humbly to trials.

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<sup>2</sup> This list is featured as an appendix to C.J. Mahaney's book, *Humility: True Greatness*. Multnomah Books: Colorado Springs, CO. 2005.