



I. INTRODUCTION TO PRIDE

- A. Wikipedia's definition - the love of one's own excellence; the opposite of _____.
- B. The Roman Catholic church lists pride as the _____ of the 7 deadly sins.
- C. The Bible reminds us that God hates pride and pride goes before destruction!

Proverbs 8:13 (NIV) *"To fear the LORD is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behavior and perverse speech."*

Proverbs 16:18 (NIV) *"Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall."*

Scripture: Matthew 15:1-20

II. JESUS vs. PHARISEES

A. Background Information

- 1. Definition of ceremonial hand-washing - *strictly ceremonial; scoop two hands in 1½ egg shells worth of water and let run down and off your wrists.*
- 2. Definition of traditions - *translations of Scripture meant to assist Jewish leaders in making important decisions.*
- 3. Can you guess why our hearts are far from God?

B. Jesus' view of the Hearts of the Pharisees

- 1. They lived selfish lives.
- 2. They focused on impressing man instead of pleasing God.
- 3. _____ defile a man!

C. Pride-Busting Questions:

- 1. God...what is **YOUR** plan for my life?
- 2. God...how do you want me to fulfill **YOUR** plan for my life?
- 3. God...how can I find more time to spend with **YOU**?