

The Pride of Life

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In my youth, parents and community elders encouraged us to take pride in ourselves and our accomplishments. However, pride can sometimes go awry if you are not careful, and can lead to habitual boasting about victories.

Our pride is a real killjoy that prevents us from achieving some of our deepest needs. I recall attending a breakfast fundraising event, and a couple came in and realized they had left their money at home. They turned to exit the building, indicating their lack of cash, and several people, including myself, offered to pay for both.

The young person, caring for the elderly parents, said “No, we don’t need it.” Well... the parents looked very disappointed about their daughter’s decision not to accept the kind gestures extended to them.

You may not consider yourself a prideful person, but pride is part of our human DNA. Do you think that from the beginning, pride was the cause of man’s sin and weakness? I know that was the reason Lucifer was expelled from heaven, because he was filled with pride and wanted to assume God’s Throne.

Pride is like standing on the edge of a cliff with extended hands and arms in the air, boasting about your accomplishments until the wind blows you down. Pride does not unite people, or a nation, but rather polarizes relationships and the good that is desired.

When we allow pride to be the center of all we do as a person, people, or nation, we are headed for devastation. Prideful people want everybody to step back and give them free reign over their actions and decisions.

Pride prevents us from receiving help even when we need it the most. If you see a neighbor in need, help them; if a neighbor who sees you in need and offers help, receive it. Let us, as a community, strive to be helpful and humble enough to assist and receive the help that is needed for our continued existence in this community, country, and world. The best way to defeat pride is to repent, be submissive to God, and be gracious to each other.

“God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.” {1Peter 5:5b NKJV}

Celebrate with us and experience the Good Life at the Villages Community Chapel in Cribari Auditorium every Sunday at 10 a.m. to be encouraged over the Word of Life and enjoy coffee and cookies with friends. The chapel is a place for needs to be met, faith to be affirmed, and new friends to embrace. You can view our worship services on YouTube at www.villagescommunitychapel.vgcc.club