



The Cure

FOR HYPOCRISY AND PRIDE

by Pastor Scott Boerckel

One of the charges leveled at Bible believing Christians is that they are filled with hypocrisy and pride.

They claim many common behaviors to be sinful and yet they do these very same things and seek to hide these sins from others. Pride is charged because Christians, it is alleged, think of themselves as morally superior to the rest of the world. The accusation is that some behaviors are marked out by believers as evil. Then, the accusation continues that since the believer is not doing that particular behavior, the believer considers himself more holy or closer to God than those who do such things. The accusation is that there is a sense of superiority among Christians that reflects pride that we are somehow more righteous, more worthy of God, or more valuable than the rest of people. Let's consider both charges and how our church focus helps us avoid both hypocrisy and pride.

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This OakLeaf focuses on the topic of pride and hypocrisy.

The Valley of Vision is a collection of Puritan prayers, many of which were first prayed over 400 years ago. One such prayer includes this petition, "Let me learn by paradox that the way down is the way up, that to be low is to be high." The prayer marks well the Christian's struggle against pride and hypocrisy. In this edition of the OakLeaf you will find encouragement and help for your struggle.





The Cure for Hypocrisy and Pride, continued

We must admit at the outset that there is a problem in each of us and in the Christian community with both hypocrisy and pride.

No one can say that they live the Christian life with perfect consistency. No one can say that they have not looked at the sins of others and been more outraged by those sins than the sins that we ourselves are committing. There is a reason that the charges of hypocrisy and pride stick to us in human conscience. It is that the charges are true.

If this is so, the more important question is not, “How can we defend ourselves against the charges of hypocrisy and pride?” The more important question is, “How can we overcome the sins of hypocrisy and pride?” It is just here that our church focus can help us. Can you recall our church focus? It is: “Seeking to be worshipers, maturing in Christ.” This focus should be harder to forget now that we have it printed on the wall of our foyer as you enter the worship center.

There is a reason that the charges of hypocrisy and pride stick to us in human conscience. It is that the charges are true.

How does our church focus help us overcome hypocrisy? All hypocrisy is based on the sin of personal kingdom building. The reason that we sin, then hide it, and then pretend that we are living otherwise is because we want to build our own kingdoms and be well thought of. We even fool ourselves that we are fooling God in the true nature of our relationship with Him. “Seeking to be worshipers” means that all of life is an act of worship. We do not care for our reputations. We care that God and His reputation is exalted. We do not play a pretend game of worship. We seek the Lord’s face in all genuineness. We don’t care what people know or how others view

us, even in our sinfulness. We care about knowing, loving, and worshiping the Triune God.

The “maturing in Christ” part of our focus likewise helps against hypocrisy. This is the means of our worship becoming ever purer and less hypocritical. We believers have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. We want and expect that to change our lives. “And this is the victory that has overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God” (1 John 5:4-5). As such, we are not concerned about withholding the reality of our sin from Jesus or from others. Our passion for Christ consumes the passion that we have that people think well of us.

The Christian at East White Oak, then, is NOT someone who is sinless and therefore avoids hypocrisy. The Christian at East White Oak is someone who, when they sin, is not worried about who knows about it but rather seeks to run to Christ out of a focus on being a worshiper. Worship overwhelms the sense of self-protection and kingdom building that is so common in Christian circles and that is the substance of hypocrisy. In fact, it is the community of worshipers that leads to openness and freedom to share one’s sins, hurts, and cares with one another. The goal of that sharing is not to garner sympathy or even to take pride in our vulnerability. The goal is focused: Seeking to be worshipers, maturing in Christ.

This kind of community is expressed well in Paul’s letter to the Galatians. “Walk by the Spirit” (Gal 5:16); “Live by the Spirit” (Gal 5:25); “Keep in step with the Spirit” (Gal 5:25) “Bear one another’s burdens” (Gal 6:2)—these all express the life in community free from hypocrisy because it is a life of together seeking to be worshipers, maturing in Christ.

How does our church focus help us overcome pride? Again, the focus on “seeking to be worshipers” reveals that we have no ground of boasting. In fact, the very word, “seeking” implies a humble awareness that we have not “arrived,” but rather that we are passionately in pursuit of something. That something is the pursuit of God. Knowing Him, loving Him, blessing Him is the reason and ground of our personal existence and of our church’s existence. We simply cannot look down upon the unconverted. They cannot



help but sin. We cannot look down on other believers outside our fellowship. Their sins, great as they may be, are not our concern. We have no pride because we know that despite God's great grace, we continue to sin.

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This brings reproach upon us individually, and it brings reproach upon our church. So, in seeking to be worshipers, we are brought to a state of desperation and humility. We know that sin is first and foremost OUR enemy, not the enemy of culture nor of people "out there."

The "maturing in Christ" part of our church focus is the means by which we seek to be worshipers. We long "to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ" (Eph 4:15). We recognize that we cannot do this in our own strength. This eliminates pride, either pride of ourselves, or pride over other Christians, or pride over non-Christians. As Peter puts it, every bit of our service for Jesus can only come "by the strength that God supplies." This strength is given freely for the purpose of seeking to be worshipers—"in order that in everything

God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To Him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen." (1 Peter 4:11) Jesus puts this life of humble worship this way, "So you also, when you have done all that you were commanded, say, 'We are unworthy servants; we have only done what was our duty.'" (Luke 17:10)

When the Apostle Paul concluded his great exposition of being justified by grace alone through Christ alone, he makes this comment, "Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded." (Rom 3:27) He urges us, individually and as a church "Let us not become conceited" (Galatians 5:26). He offers this pattern for those who seek to be worshipers, maturing in Christ, "But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation" (Galatians 6:14-15). He declares, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord" (2 Corinthians 10:17).

We seek to be worshipers, maturing in Christ. Let's be done with the sins of hypocrisy and pride. Those sins belong to self-exalting, personal kingdom building people. As we grow together as worshipers, maturing in Christ, Jesus will free us from hypocrisy and pride, from self-protection to vulnerability, from a spirit of criticism to a spirit of humility, from an attitude of pessimism to a heart filled with joy "that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls" (1 Peter 1:8-9).





Religious Pride

by Richard Mayhew

We all love games and sports. To allow us to play fairly and consistently, there are certain rules and boundaries that every participant must follow.

In football, a ball in possession of a player which crosses the goal line scores six points. A basketball going through the basket scores two points. In tennis, if you step on the line during a serve before the ball is hit, it is called a “foot fault.” And so it goes. Because we normally operate with sets of rules, we tend to make up certain rules that also define our spiritual life. We can almost “keep score” by how well we can follow these rules.

It is reported that during Jesus’ time the religious leaders had developed a list of over 600 spiritual rules to follow which let a person keep score on how spiritual they were. Jesus called out the Pharisees in Matthew 23 as being “white-washed tombs”, looking pure, pristine, shiny, and bright on the outside, but rotten on the inside. Apparently, keeping the rules was not helping them develop spiritually.

As modern-day believers, we must guard against the same type of “pride” when we see ourselves as following all the rules. We think that more rules tend to equate with being more spiritual. I don’t drink, I don’t smoke, I don’t play dominoes on Sunday, therefore, I am a spiritual person. And worse, it really makes me more spiritual than you, because I know that you do those things.

The Apostle Paul warns us in Colossians 2:16 “let no one act as your judge in regard to food or drink or festivals or new moons or sabbath day.” This is a repeated theme and warning in several of Paul’s letters, like his discussion of Christian liberties in Romans 14

or discussion of food offered to idols in I Corinthians 8. Paul is warning Christian believers that our spirituality comes from the inner working of the Holy Spirit, not in keeping a set of rules. Rule keeping is easy once you set the boundaries. Following and obeying God’s command to “love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your mind, and to love your neighbor as yourself” (Matt 22:37,38) is difficult (impossible) without the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit.

Of course, discipline in the Christian life is good. Of course, obeying God in our daily walk – family, work, school, leisure, etc. – is what it means to be a follower of Jesus Christ. But the danger is equating our performance with our own level of spirituality.

Paul reminds us in Colossians 2:17, that these things are “mere shadows of what is to come; but the substance belongs to Christ.”

Let us live and walk along our spiritual path, with Christ as our example, under the power of the Holy Spirit, with our eyes fixed firmly on God the Father. Doing this quickly removes any tendency toward pride in ourselves and pride in our own accomplishments.

Colossians 2:6 *“As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him.”*



Richard Mayhew and his wife, Becky, joined East White Oak this past spring. They have two grown children and seven grandchildren. After he retired as a research chemist in Maryland, they moved to Bloomington to live near their daughter’s family. Richard enjoys gardening, traveling, and teaching the Bible.

Christ As Our Source of Life

by Jim Simmons

Moving to a foreign culture exposes just how much we live life on “autopilot.” It’s quite an eye opener to see your life set against the backdrop of another culture.

For example, in the United States, I just drive. But in Tanzania, when I pushed my left turn signal, the windshield wipers turned on. When I made a right turn, I found myself facing oncoming traffic. “OH! That’s Right!” I thought, “I forgot! I’m supposed to drive on the LEFT-HAND side of the road.”

So much of routine life in the U.S. now takes EFFORT in Tanzania. We spent our first year “unthinking” much of how we do things – basic life things – especially things related to our home. For instance, the culturally ideal time for many Tanzanians to “swing by to visit unannounced” is right at dinner time for us. These situations provide rich opportunities for us to come to know new friends within their own meaningful “autopilot” lives. Yet, these opportunities can also become sources of frustration, disappointment, and even resentment. How do we respond in these situations? Where does the heart go?

Tracing frustration (*expectations blocked*), disappointment (*desires unfulfilled*), and resentment (*displeasure expressed from a sense of injury*) upstream within our own hearts can be an uncomfortable yet healthy exercise. What will we find at the source of our responses? There are basically two options: Christ or Self. Christ calls us to abide in Him in a way that His life is the source of our own, and therefore our responses in these situations pour forth His love.¹ The opposite source is pride of self. Mark 7:22-23 lists pride as one of the evils which, “... come from within and defile a person.” Responses flowing from this source ultimately destroy.²



Christ calls us to abide in Him in a way that **His life is the source of our own...** our responses in these situations pour forth His love.

Our desire to show the love of Christ in Tanzania necessitates that we continually check the source of each response we embody in our new culture.

¹ See John 15:1-17 for a full display of this promise.

² Biblical Anthropology (*study of Humanity*) & Hamartiology (*study of Sin*) expose sin itself as more than the thoughts, words, and actions which violate God’s commands. There is something more profound at play here. Look at the word “Sin” in Romans 6:1-14. First make a list of the specific actions, words, and thoughts found in these verses which are direct violations of God’s commands. The list is surprisingly small! Now, spend some time discovering the nature of “Sin” in these verses. This exercise exposes the fact that Sin is indeed far more profound than the thoughts, words, and actions that violate God’s commands.



Jim and his wife, Susan, serve as missionaries with Africa Inland Mission in Tanzania. They lived in Towanda, IL and attended East White Oak for many years before leaving for language school in the summer of 2021. Jim is on the teaching staff at Nassa Theological College in Tanzania where he teaches classes including the Pentateuch, New Testament Survey, and Anthropology & Hamartiology.



The Danger of Pride and Hypocrisy

by Doug Orner

In Matthew 7:22-23 we have some of the most chilling verses in Scripture.

We all desire to follow the Lord and do the things He has asked us to do. We hear God's call and desire to do His will. Often as we begin whatever ministry the Lord has for us, our hearts and desires are in tune to what God wants. If we are not careful, eventually the doing becomes more important than the being. The key to these verses is the "knowing." God desires above all else for us to have a relationship with Him. As Paul said, "to know Him and the power of His resurrection." We can become so busy in our work for Him that we don't leave time to commune with Him and grow in our knowing Him. If we work at knowing Him, ministry will be a natural outflowing of our relationship.

There are two sides to every relationship. It is the same in our relationship with God. In these verses in Matthew, Jesus is talking about His relationship to us. "I never knew you." That is first and foremost in this relationship. We must then spend time on our side of the relationship of knowing Him. Not just knowing of Him or spending time with increasing our knowledge of God. But we need to spend time investing in our personal relationship with Him. Learning to lean on Him and trust in Him in every situation. Knowing how He works and thinks, understanding His desires and ways.

Is Jesus just talking to people from His time? The context and question show us that it is individuals from all time that will stand before Him, "on that day." You and I will be there. Where will we stand? Good works are not enough. We must do good works in the context of knowing God and God knowing us. If this is the case, then our works will reflect the love of God to those we are working with. It will be an outflowing of our relationship with Christ. The mightier the works, the more we must be in tune with God and His will.

On that day **many will say** to me, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?' And then will I declare to them, **'I never knew you;** depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.'

Matthew 7:22-23

On the mission field we face the same issue. Those who do the greatest works are in danger of being the biggest hypocrites. As a missionary and follower of Christ my greatest fear is that as I walk through this life and preach the Gospel of Christ, I will see the need for Christ in the lives of others but will fail to see the hypocrisy in my own life. Lord teach me to search my own heart, in light of the scriptures and my relationship with You, that I may clean out my heart and be a vessel fit for Your work.



Doug and his wife Lisa have served as missionaries for 38 years with Africa Inland Mission: 23 years in Tanzania and 15 in Kenya. They now serve as caregivers at Africa Inland Mission Retirement Center in Minneola, FL. They have two grown sons and 4 grandchildren.

Pride: A Hindrance to Revival

by Dr. Jeff VanGoethem

All human beings are selfish. I consider myself “Exhibit A.”

Not that I am extrapolating my own flaws on to everyone else, but this is the teaching of scripture:

ALL we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—**EVERY ONE**—to **HIS OWN WAY** (Isa. 53:6).

Yes, we are all selfish, we all desire “our own way.” Why is this a hindrance to revival? Essentially it is a hindrance to the God-centered, self-emptying prayer that is necessary for revival. If we are all going our own way, can we really pray, “Lord your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.” Don’t we have to empty ourselves of self-centered pride to pray such a prayer?

Revival is God’s will. God is on a mission of spiritual awakening. It is incumbent upon us to seek and pray for this. Do I want what God wants? Pride often gets in the way:

- The pride of self-focus. Being concerned firstly with MYSELF and what I want.
- The pride of self-confidence. I can do this, I don’t need God’s help.
- The pride of self-sufficiency or self-satisfaction. Feeling that I have it together, I don’t need God to do anything, I’m fine. I’m happy with how things are. That’s the way I am, I’m not changing.

But think, what does God want? God wants our love, our attention, our worship. The first and greatest commandment is this: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with



God wants to bring **spiritual refreshment** to each of us as well as **awakening** to the broader world. God deserves to be the center of attention.

all your mind.” (Matt. 22:37). God wants to bring spiritual refreshment to each of us as well as awakening to the broader world. God deserves to be the center of attention.

Can we ask God to help us empty ourselves of our self focus, self-confidence and self-sufficiency so that we can pray this way?

“Self-sufficient people don’t sense a need for God or what God can do.” (Roy Fish).

We are needy. The world is needy. Let us pray from the humble posture of need to a revival-giving, awakening God.



Pastor Jeff VanGoethem has been in pastoral ministry for 40 years, including nearly twenty as Senior Pastor of East White Oak. He has returned to East White Oak after pastoring for some years in Dallas, Texas to serve as Associate Pastor of Spiritual Development and Missions. He is married to Karen. They have four daughters and four grandchildren.



A Woman's Struggle with Pride

by Jeanette Clayton

What does a prideful woman look like? Our first thoughts may go to one who isn't timid about talking about herself, her most recent accomplishment, experience/vacation, or her knowledge/insight on a particular topic.

Maybe it's the woman of vanity, who focuses on how she looks, whether she is attractive, slim, fit, and well dressed, keeping up with the latest trends and designer brands. Perhaps, it's the independent woman who is self sufficient, well educated, well equipped to take care of herself financially, physically, and emotionally. She seems to have it all together and makes it clear she doesn't need the help of others. In whatever form pride takes, it seeks to impress self and others.

Within the church, many women know these top layers of pride, are self aware, and have learned how to tame pride's blatant behaviors. For we know the biblical

Pride is like an onion with **many layers** and at the core is the belief that self and **self preservation is more important than God.**

warnings of pride such as it reflects one who is not seeking God (Psalm 10:4), that pride brings disgrace (Proverbs 11:2), it breeds quarrels (Proverbs 13:10); it deceives (Jeremiah 49:16), it brings low (Proverbs 29:23), it hardens hearts (Daniel 5:20), and that it leads to our downfall or destruction (Proverbs 16:8). Who would want these results? No one, but especially women seeking to know God. Especially those who have studied the word of God and have had a glimpse of His holy standards. Those who may have had these top layers peeled off by the Holy Spirit, only to reveal more of its ugly layers beneath.

If only ridding ourselves of pride were easy. If only we were able to detect these outward prideful tendencies and be self controlled enough to eradicate the source of them. But pride is like an onion with many layers and at the core is the belief that self and self preservation is more important than God. The attitude that says, "I am confident in myself and my own plan. I know what is best for me and I want the best!" Of course that sounds arrogant, conceited, perhaps even narcissistic, but isn't that the attitude behind pride? In all forms, whether blatantly obvious, subtle, or silently hidden in our hearts it comes out masked as frustration when our plans are thwarted, false humility when our successes are acknowledged, and self righteousness for our "good deeds". Somehow the pride in our hearts bleeds out in various forms. Things that God intends for good, that we can so easily make idols and a source of pride. Being a loving wife, respecting and submitting to our husband; being a consistent mother who disciplines in love and with respect to the unique design of each of her children; using unique talents and gifts to serve family, church, and community; using resources/finances in ways to honor the Lord; having academically, athletically, artistically, musically, or socially talented children who are acknowledged for their abilities... these are the good things that our sin laden hearts can subtly or secretly pride ourselves in. These good things

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

CHRISTMAS TEA

"THE ANTICIPATION OF CHRISTMAS"

Friday, December 1, 6:30 PM

EastWhiteOak.church/women

Invite a friend or neighbor to join you for this fun Christmas event! Please sign up by November 28.

Somehow the pride in our hearts bleeds out in various forms. Things that God intends for good, that we can so easily make idols and a source of pride.

can pridefully become our hope, our joy, our focus, our treasure, which becomes the rudder of our lives that steer the direction of our lives away from the very Creator who designed us to trust Him and His ways, delighting in Him forevermore.

Where does this battle with pride lead us? Hopefully, prayerfully, to the merciful feet of Jesus, pleading for a revived heart. We need Jesus...the Cross...an accurate view of the goodness of God...an accurate view of ourselves...and a willingness to humbly submit fully to

God. A daily renewing of the gospel message personally and a calling out to God as David did is needed. May we join in David's prayer, *Oh, LORD, create in me a pure heart. Renew a steadfast spirit within me. Restore the joy of salvation to me* (especially as it relates to the root of pride which lingers in my heart,) *and uphold me with a willing spirit* (Psalm 51:10, 12) as I know so well my propensity to wander. May You alone be glorified in and through my life. Amen.



Jeanette Clayton serves as the Women's Ministry Bible Study Coordinator. She has two grown daughters and is a 3rd grade teacher at Tri-Valley Elementary School. Jeanette enjoys spending time with family and friends, reading, traveling, and enjoying the great outdoors.



A Sportsman's Perspective on Hypocrisy and Pride

by Pat Gregory

Hypocrisy and pride in the life of a Christian are real problems. The Bible makes numerous references to each and none of them are good.

Hypocrisy is generally referenced with envy or slander (Matthew 23:28, 1 Peter 2:1). *Pride* is generally referenced as something God hates or with some kind of warning resulting from pride (Proverbs 8:13 and 16:18). These are very strong and sobering references. Let's try to better understand hypocrisy and pride.

Hypocrisy is defined culturally as *"the practice of claiming to have moral standards or beliefs to which one's own behavior does not conform."* The Bible generally refers to a hypocrite as *"someone pretending to be something that he or she is not in order to gain recognition or gain."* Christ repeatedly called the Pharisees out as hypocrites because they gave the illusion of being religious leaders serving God but they

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generally did it with motives of personal profit or improved self-image—all the wrong motives for serving God. Practically in our lives, hypocrisy occurs when we claim to live a moral life or by God's standards but, our actions or behavior do not match our words or beliefs. For the sportsman, examples include claiming to be a good steward of the land but leaving garbage on a campsite. Another example could be when parks have a boat ramp use fee that is paid on the honor system but because no one is looking, we do not pay it. All hypocrisy for the Christian.

Simply put, hypocrisy is sin. When we know better and don't do it, we sin. But, it doesn't end there. Hypocrisy and the resulting sin, damages our witness. When others know we are Christians and do things contrary to our Christian beliefs, it tarnishes our witness as a Christian. For a watching world, why would unbelieving onlookers want to be a Christian when we can't even follow simple, cultural rules? Not a good image of a Christ lover.

Pride is also a problem for the Christian. Culturally, pride is defined as *"a feeling of deep pleasure or satisfaction derived from one's own achievements."* In and of itself, this doesn't sound bad. The problem for the Christian is *pride is in one's self and in one's own achievements.* This approach generally brings glory to oneself, not giving it to God. Biblically, pride is *an excessive love of oneself or one's accomplishments.* It is *"improper and excessive self-esteem known as conceit or arrogance."* The key here is *self.* In our pride, we begin to become self-centered, conceited, and arrogant. We put ourselves in front of God and take the glory that is due Him. Proverbs 8:13 says God hates pride and arrogance. Pretty strong words, but they need to be. Apart from God, man is self-centered, self-driven and

self-righteous. Under this approach, all the blessings and results of the good work of God are now claimed by man. Our flesh leans this way and our desire to please people promotes this. Examples of pride for the sportsman can be bragging about the success of a hunt, taking total credit for the results. Another can be being conceited to the point we think we're above the law and don't have to follow rules. Taking excess bag limits above what we're allowed by the law can be driven by pride.

Simply put, pride is sin. Thinking more of ourselves can result in arrogance and self-righteousness. When we know better and think more of ourselves than we should, we sin. Pride and arrogance also tarnish a Christian witness. Christians are supposed to be "other oriented" putting others before themselves. We are supposed to serve others sacrificially like Christ did. When our actions are all about serving ourselves instead of others, it is pride and hypocrisy. Both are sins.

For a **watching world**, why would unbelieving onlookers want to be a Christian when we can't even follow simple, cultural rules? **Not a good image** of a Christ lover.

So how do we guard against hypocrisy and pride in our lives as Christians? Maybe understanding the opposite of each will help. If hypocrisy is not walking our talk, *walk our talk*. Be a man of your word. Do what you say you are going to do. Be on time. Be in God's Word daily and go to great lengths to follow it. Pray that you walk worthy of God's calling on your life. *The opposite of pride is humility*. So, pray to be humble. Pride and humility cannot exist at the same time. Don't brag. Think of others before yourself. Serve others. Bless others. Give glory to God instead of yourself. All of this is an act of the Holy Spirit. So, pray daily for



humility and that you think of others before yourself. This will help with both pride and hypocrisy.

As sportsmen, we need to be the best example of God's goodness in our actions in front of non-believing sportsmen. Our actions need to match our words and our Christian beliefs. In the outdoors, we need to be considerate of others and put their needs before our own. And, for this, God gets the glory. His ways are best and, when we follow them, He shapes our character to be more like Christ. Blessings all! Get outdoors! It's a great place to be...



Pat Gregory serves as the leader of the East White Oak Sportsmen's Group. He is married to Nancy. They have two grown children and 3 grandchildren. He retired from State Farm Insurance where he served as a Business Analyst in the Systems Department. Pat is an outdoorsman and volunteers at the Midwest Food Bank.

Am I a proud or a broken person?

Proud people focus on the failures of others and can readily point out those faults.

Broken people are more conscious of their own spiritual need than of anyone else's.

Proud people have to prove that they are right—they have to get the last word.

Broken people are willing to yield the right to be right.

Proud people desire to be served—they want life to revolve around them and their own needs.

Broken people are motivated to serve others and to be sure others' needs are met before their own.

Proud people are self-protective of their time, their rights, and their reputation.

Broken people are self-denying and self-sacrificing.

Proud people have a drive to be recognized and appreciated for their efforts.

Broken people have a sense of their own unworthiness; they are thrilled that God would use them at all.

Proud people are quick to blame others.

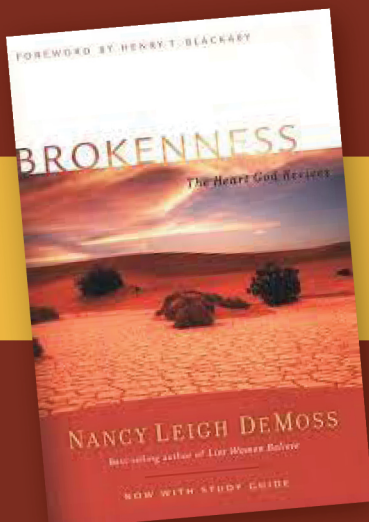
Broken people accept personal responsibility and can acknowledge where they are wrong in a situation.

Proud people have a hard time saying, "I was wrong; will you please forgive me?"

Broken people are quick to admit their failure and to seek forgiveness when necessary.

Proud people want to be sure that no one finds out when they have sinned; their instinct is to cover up.

Broken people aren't overly concerned with who knows or who finds out about their sin—they are willing to be exposed because they have nothing to lose.



Excerpts from a resource by Nancy Leigh DeMoss:
Brokenness, The Heart God Revives