



LIFELINE Discussion Guide

Week of October 7, 2024

1. **SHARE A STORY!** Tell a story about a time where you (or someone you know) experienced an embarrassing mistake where you bragged or displayed pride... but then failed. What happened in that situation? How did pride lead to a fall?
2. Have everyone in the group open their Bibles to Daniel chapter five. Go around the room and have each person read one verse until the entire chapter is read. (31 verses)
3. In the English language there are many “idioms” where we use phrases that aren’t exactly literal. For instance: “She’s under the weather.” Can you name some other famous idioms that you know? See if your group can come up with 10 of them. Which famous idiom was birthed by this story in Daniel 5?
4. Look back at Daniel 4—verses 28 through 33. What had previously happened to Belshazzar’s grandfather, the legendary Nebuchadnezzar, when he acted proudly pompous before God? After seven years of humiliation, what did Nebuchadnezzar learn in 4:37? What should the royal family members have learned as a result of this whole ordeal?
5. When Belshazzar had the gold and silver cups from the Jerusalem Temple brought out for the drinking party— how was this a display of pride? Why was this so offensive to God Almighty?
6. What was the meaning of the handwriting on the wall? How was it fulfilled by the end of the night?
7. Take a few minutes to read these Scriptures aloud: Proverbs 6:16-19; Psalm 101:5; Proverbs 16:5, 18; 1 Peter 5:5. How would you summarize the Bible’s statements about human pride? Why is pride so ugly and so detestable to God?
8. What are some of the ways that pride slips into our everyday attitudes and actions, even as Christians? Give some examples. How does it even show up in our spiritual lives and church relationships?
9. Not everyone struggles with substance abuse, pornography addiction, angry outbursts, or gossip—but everyone battles pride. Why do you think pride is the most dominant sin on the planet today?
10. What are some practical ways that you can push back against pride as a Christian? Close your time in prayer by asking God to help you embrace these strategies, and to live humbly instead of proudly.

Foolish pride is a wobbly wall that is always destined to fall.