

BIG IDEA

Until we get our eyes off ourselves, we will never really see Jesus.

WHAT DOES GOD WANT ME TO KNOW?

Why do you think so many people have false perceptions of themselves?

Read Daniel 4:24-27. According to this passage, what is the proper response to pride? Daniel's advice to King Nebuchadnezzar outlines at least three proper responses: recognize that Heaven rules, repent, and show mercy.

Compare Daniel 4:28-33 to 4:34-37. How did Nebuchadnezzar's attitude change? Where can you discern repentance and humility in the second passage?

Consider Proverbs 16:18. Where do you think pride comes from? Where does it lead?

WHAT IS MY INITIAL REACTION?

Reread Daniel 4:24-27. Has God ever revealed to you a difficult truth about yourself? How did you respond?

In what ways might you be seeing yourself differently than others see you?

What is your natural tendency: to think less of yourself than you should or to think more of yourself than you should? Why might this be?

Why is it so tempting to present ourselves to others in a way that isn't completely true? There are a variety of social, cultural, and relational pressures that may lead to this temptation. If we aren't secure in our identity in Christ, we will be deceived into thinking that our worth comes from what others think of us and tempted to present a false version of ourselves in order to convince others that we are valuable. Jesus came to save us from this delusion!

Are you often bothered by the pride you see in others? What might this show you about the pride in your own heart?

Talk about a gut check! Humble people approach the pride in others with compassion and mercy. Allow this truth to challenge you and reveal areas of your heart that are still held captive to the vice of pride.



WHAT AM I GOING TO DO?

Read John 3:26-30. On a scale from Nebuchadnezzar to John the Baptist, how prideful are you? What practical steps can you take to move toward a "less of me" mentality? The majority of us fall somewhere in the middle. We aren't as haughty as Nebuchadnezzar, but we aren't as humble as John the Baptist. John found joy in pointing others to Jesus. Challenge your group to imitate John in this way.

Which delusion from the message this weekend are you most prone to believe? How can you apply Jesus' words in **Luke 9:23** to combat this delusion?

- 1. I'm good enough without Jesus
- 2. My life should be about me.
- 3. Being self-absorbed doesn't make me self-centered.

If your Life Group members haven't yet signed up for the LG Fall Kickoff this weekend, today is the day! It is crucial that everyone involved in the Life Group ministry (leaders, members, coaches) makes it a priority to attend this event. More information and registration links for each campus can be found at <u>www.centralaz.com/morethan</u>.