

Entrust 4/20/22 – Masculinity and Threats to the Bond of Peace

I. Intro

- **Eph 4:1-3**

II. Pride

- **Pride Defined:**

The mindset of self (a master's mindset rather than that of a servant): a focus on self and the service of self, a pursuit of self-recognition and self-exaltation, and a desire to control and use all things for self.
- Self-worship
- Anger (Proverbs 28:25; Matthew 20:1-16)
- Complaining against or passing judgment on God (Numbers 14:1-4, 9, 11; Romans 9:20)
- A lack of gratitude (II Chronicles 32:25)
- Seeing oneself as better than others (Luke 7:36-50)
- Having an inflated view of one's importance, gifts, and abilities (Acts 12:21-23; Romans 12:3)
- Being focused on the lack of one's gifts and abilities (I Corinthians 12:14-25)
- Perfectionism (Matthew 23:24-28)
- Talking too much (Proverbs 10:19)
- Talking about self (Proverbs 27:2)
- Seeking independence or control (I Corinthians 1:10-13; Ephesians 5:21)
- Being consumed with what others think (Galatians 1:10)
- Being devastated or angered by criticism or rejection (Proverbs 13:1; II Samuel 17:23)

- Being unteachable (Proverbs 19:20; John 9:13-34)
- Being sarcastic, hurtful, or degrading (Proverbs 12:18, 24)
- A lack of service (Galatians 5:13; Ephesians 2:10)
- A lack of compassion (Matthew 5:7; 18:23-35)
- Being defensive or blame-shifting (Genesis 3:12-13; Proverbs 12:1)
- A lack of admitting when wrong (Proverbs 10:17)
- A lack of asking forgiveness (Matthew 5:23-24)
- A lack of biblical prayer (Luke 18:10-14)
- Resisting authority or being disrespectful (I Peter 2:13-17)
- Voicing preferences or opinions when not asked (Philippians 2:1-4)
- Minimizing one's own sin and shortcomings (Matthew 7:3-5)
- Maximizing other's sin and shortcomings (Matthew 7:3-5; Luke 18:9-14)
- Being impatient, irritable, and annoyed with others and bothered at interruptions (Proverbs 16:9; Ephesians 4:1-3; 31-32)
- Being jealous or envious (I Corinthians 13:4; James 4:1-6)
- Using others (Matthew 7:12; Philippians 2:3-4)
- Being deceitful by covering up sins, faults, and mistakes (Proverbs 11:3; 28:13)
- Using attention-getting tactics (I Peter 3:3, 4)
- Not having close relationships that challenge your growth (Proverbs 18:1-2; Hebrews 10:24-25)

How do we fight against pride?

- Humility
- Ask others what sin they see in your life
- Schedule your time for serving others, growth in the knowledge and application of Scripture
- Use your spiritual gift to the benefit of others
- Prov. 15:31-33; 29:1; 12:1; Ps. 139:23-24, 38:17-18; Eph. 5:15-16, Phil. 2:3-8; James 5:16, Rom. 12:6

III. Not Preferring Others

- Wanting our own way in the church, home, and work
- Not submitting to one another
 - i. Fighting to get what we want
 - ii. Manipulating others to get our way
 - iii. Not trusting others with a certain task in case they do something you don't like

How are we to bear with each other?

- Prefer one another
- Seek opportunities to submit and deliberately defer your own way
- **Phil. 2:1-4**
- 1 Cor. 13, Prov. 21:2-3, 14:12, 16:2
- Is. 55:8-9, Ps. 115:3, Rom: 12:10

IV. Negative Prejudgments Against Each Other

- Not believing the best
- Listening to and accepting gossip and slander as true or allowing those thoughts to take root
- Gossiping about others

How Ought we Think About Each Other?

- Grow in a love for others
 - For the lost (Ezek 18:30-32, Rom 9:1-3)
 - For the hurting (2 Cor 1:6, Thess 5:14)
 - For those in sin (1 Thess 5:14, Gal 6:1-3)
 - For God's people (John 13:34-35)
- Repent/Ask forgiveness quickly

- Actively look for the grace of God in each other's lives
- Recognize the grace of God in each other's lives—tell each other
- See the fruit of the Spirit in others and encourage others with what you see
- Think about areas where you may not be believing the best and repent.
- Phil. 2:1-4; 1 Cor. 13:6-8
- Acts 20:28
- 2 Cor. 5:14-15
- 1 Pet. 1:18-19

V. Wrong View of Church

- Thinking of it as ours rather than God's
- Only showing up and not serving

How are We to Live in Christ's Church?

- Dwell on how we are merely reflectors of Christ's glory
- We are instruments in God's hand to accomplish his work in the church
- Disciple/meet with others
- Accountable to leadership, of some sort, in the local church – meeting regularly w/ someone for your growth and accountability (Col 1:28)
- Using your spiritual gifts without a desire to be recognized

- 1 Peter 2:9-10

VI. Complacency in Sanctification/Growth in Christ

- Not repenting
- Not regularly reading Scripture and praying
- Not doing family worship
- Making subtle and small compromises that lead to secret sins

How Can We Grow?

- Cultivate dependence through prayer
- Beg God for grace and repentance
- Confess sin to one-another – James 5
- Growth takes effort and intentionality (Phil 2:12-13)
- It will not always be fun, yet it must never stop (1 Cor 9:24-27)
- Trust God that it will yield joy and peace (John 15:11)
- Repentance as a way of life (Phil 2:12-13)
 - i. **Repentance** = “Repentance unto life is a saving grace whereby a sinner, out of a true sense of his sin, and apprehension of the mercy of God in Christ does, with grief and hatred of his sin, turn from it unto God, with full purpose of and endeavor after, new obedience” (Westminster Shorter Catechism, Q87)
- Schedule time to read the Bible and pray
 - i. Scripture is the only source of life and change (John 17:17)
 - ii. Source of wisdom (Ps 19:7)
 - iii. It should also be memorized (Ps 119:11)
 - iv. Memorizing verse references to know where certain passages are
 - v. Memorizing verses themselves
- Eph. 4:22-24
- Gal. 5:16-24
- **1 Tim 4:13-16; 2 Tim 2:15**

VII. Discontentment

- With each other people
- Unhappy about circumstances
- Lack of thankfulness

- With regards to finances

How Can We Mature in Contentment?

- Read about hardship in Scripture
- Dwell on the Lord's lovingkindness, faithfulness, compassion
- Ecc. 7:10
- Lam. 3:22-24
- **Matt 6:24-34**

VIII. Jealousy

- In ministry (spiritual gifts, etc.)
- Material blessings that others may have and you don't
- Certain relationships

What Should Our Response Be Toward Others?

- Remember that we are clay. Who are we to question God?
- Be thankful
- Praise God for what he is doing through others
- Is. 45:9-10
- 1 Cor. 12
- John 3:27
- James 3:13-18

IX. Conflicts

- Holding bitterness in our hearts
- Not confronting others
- Not receiving correction
- Not believing the best about someone and their response

How Can we Resolve Conflicts Biblically?

- 4 G's
- Receive and invite criticism
- Humbly bring scripture to someone in order to restore them
- 1 Cor. 10:31; 2 Cor. 5:9; Matt. 7
- Gal. 6:1-3; Matt. 5:23-24

X. Fear

- Making mistakes
- Others' opinions
- Confrontation
- The unknown

How do We Not Fear Others?

- Love people, but do not fear them; fear God (1 John 4:18-19)
- Communicate your needs to others
- Be honest/transparent
- Ask how you can help/serve
- Obeying by faith and doing what needs to be done
- Phil. 4:6
- 2 Tim. 1:7
- Rom. 12