



# The Monster in Me Don't Forget

#nptthemonsterinme

Week 3

3 of 4

October 20, 2019

**Bottom Line:** Pride can undermine you.

**Icebreaker:** What would the title of your autobiography be? If you were independently wealthy and didn't need to work, what would you do with your extra time?

**Key Verse:** *And when you become successful, do not think "I did all this by my own strength and I became rich by my own power." Instead, remember that it is God, your Lord, who gives you the ability and strength to produce wealth!* Deuteronomy 8:17-18

What makes the Monster in Me—pride—so scary is that it IS real. Not only is it real, but you and I harbor it. You and I feed it. You and I tend to embrace it. We think we have it on a leash and have it under control, but the truth is, it's usually the other way around. The Pride Monster has the potential to destroy everything that you and I love and truly desire. We must call out pride before it has a chance to marginalize us, others, and God. We must name it, recognize it, and refuse to let it control us.

Our world strives for and defines success by position, power, or prestige. Everyone has a measure of these things. There are people all around us who would like to have our lives. The more we get the more likely we are to believe that we accomplished this by ourselves; we did this on our own strength. God cautions us against that mindset, and to remember with all we do that it is the Lord who gives us the opportunity, the strength, and the ability to do it. We are simply managing something we did not create and something that will not last forever.

Remember that the Most High is Sovereign. That's how at the end of the day you kill pride and put it to rest. That's how you must make sure that what you own never owns you. It's how you make sure that whatever God puts in your hands is used to accomplish whatever God wants to accomplish. When that is your perspective, God may choose to set you up as a person that He can trust with more prestige, power, and possessions because you are a trustworthy steward who has never made the mistake of thinking that you are an owner.

## THINK IT OVER >>>

What impacted you most from the message?

*It's pride that keeps you from admitting what you need to admit, initiating what you need to initiate, giving what needs to be given, listening to what needs to be heard, and changing what needs to be changed.*

*Pride is the reason why I've lied. I want to keep a good image, make a great showing. It's the reason why I gossip. I want you to know that I know. Agree or disagree?*

"Pride is the mother hen under which all other sins are hatched." – C. S. Lewis  
Reflect and discuss. How is this true?

"Pride gets no pleasure out of having something, only out of having more of it than the next man. It is the comparison that makes you proud: the pleasure of being above the rest. Once the element of competition is gone, pride is gone."  
– C. S. Lewis  
How has this been true of you?

## LOOK IT OVER <<<

Position, Power, Prestige, Possessions—these all have the power to deceive me and make me proud. How can I successfully navigate the path of privilege gratefully, not arrogantly?

We all have a certain amount of position, power, prestige, and possessions. We must remember:

- **I am a steward:** I am managing something you did not create and will not hold onto forever.
- **My days are numbered.** What I have is temporary. We weren't made for this world forever.
- **I am accountable.** Nothing is hidden from God. One day I will give an account for all that has been placed in my hands. I must remember I did not do this all by my own strength and hands—it was God who gave me the ability.

*Make sure what you have doesn't have you.* Discuss how to this.

*The Most High is Sovereign.* What difference does that make?

## NEXT STEPS

1. Personal Reflection: Ask yourself the following questions:
  - What place is the easiest for you to display pride? Home? Work?
  - What makes you feel proud? Your position? Your possessions? Your power?
2. Ask God to give you appropriate satisfaction and overwhelming gratitude to Him and others for what you have and can do.

## EVALUTION/ACTION

Realizing and reaching your full potential in Christ

**Bottom Line:** Pride can undermine you.

Rate yourself from 1 to 10 1 (never), 10 (always)	1	2	3	4		6	7	8	9	10
Why did you give yourself this rating?										
What benefits will you obtain by raising your rating?										
Do you know someone who demonstrates this bottom line well? What do you admire about that person?										
What specific action can you put into practice to raise your rating?										
At the end of this week, reflect - where did you see the bottom line show up in your actions throughout the week?										

## PRAYER

List group members and their prayer requests for this week:

## DAILY STUDY

Want to dig deeper? Check out **The Daily** this week at [newpointe.org/daily](http://newpointe.org/daily):

Monday: Deut. 8:17-18; 1 Cor. 4:7

Tuesday: Matthew 23:1-12

Wednesday: John 3:22-30

Thursday: Proverbs 16:18

Friday: James 4:6-8

***Don't let the conversation stop here. Keep talking it over with others throughout the week.***

*(Don't forget to bring this paper to your next small group meeting)*