



Sermon-based reflections connect the week to the weekend!

Dig deeper into the talk each week, in a small group or independently. Challenge yourself to see how the message actually makes sense and applies to your everyday life.

Message Info: People Problems - The Monster in Your Home: Ego, 10/8/23 - It starts subtle...but the consequences are huge. Ego is the unhealthy belief in our own importance, and it wreaks havoc in our relationships. There is a balance to self view, but too far left or just far enough right get's it all wrong. Let's talk about ego, and find the healthy perspective. (*Passages: Proverbs 13:10, 16:18, 29:23, Daniel 3, 4:28-36, James 4:6, Philippians 3:12, Romans 12:3, Philippians 2:3b-5*)

Discussion Questions: Take your time and dig into these questions.

How can ego spiral things out of control? Does it connect or isolate? Does ego empathize or admit wrongs? Think rationally? What about trust?

Read Daniel 3. What stands out to you in this passage. Why?

When Daniel and his friends refuse to worship King Nebuchadnezzar's massive idol, he and his officials seem personally offended. Their response is indicative of the heart of the whole charade: pride. The King's ego was so bloated, he made some ridiculous decrees and ultimatums. Thankfully, God is bigger than anyone's swollen pride. What does pride look like in our culture? Our lives? What have we allowed pride to take over?

God takes great delight in everyone of us. We are so important to him. But if we aren't careful, we can drift from a healthy perspective. With just a little pride or arrogance; extra "me" or "I," pretty soon we're holding our importance above that of others.

Reread v28-29. The King finally get's it...or does he? He saw God's mighty hand at work, but until his humiliation in chapter 4, the truth hadn't hit home (Daniel 4:28-36).

Don't wait to be humbled like King Neduchadnazzar. Seek God's restoration, pray for a humble, teachable heart. Look to the Bible for guidance and strength.

"...in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus..."

Phillippians 2:3b-5

Weekly Challenge: There are a ton of ways to serve at Grace; could you give one Sunday per month? Email info@gracefreechurch.net to say yes!

COME  **GROW**  **GO** 