

# DIDN'T O SEE IT COMING

# Pride

## Opening Questions:

Growing up, do you remember anyone asking you what you wanted to be when you grow up? What was your answer?

Did you become what you always wanted to be? Why or why not?

## Group Study:

Reread our teaching text from this week in James 3:16-4:10 and make observations as you read: What stands out to you in this passage? Does anything surprise you? Not make sense to you? Strike you in any way?

The greek word for pride in this passage comes from two words that literally mean to "over-shine." A good definition is "showing oneself above others." Based on your own life experiences and the things you've seen in our culture, can you think of anything that exemplifies this word, "pride"?

Why do you think God opposes the proud and what does this say to you about God? Can you think of any other place in scripture to support your answer?

In the sermon, Pastor Silverio mentioned two possible ways that pride can "sneak into" our life:

-Disappointment that comes from not getting what we wanted in this life which can cause us to constantly be comparing ourselves and competing for others instead of celebrating their successes.

-Over time, choosing to live our lives more in alignment with the culture of this world than with the word of God.

Has pride ever "snuck into" your life? Share any insights you are having from reading our teaching text along with these points from this week's sermon.

Why do you think God wants us to get rid of pride? What does pride prevent God from doing in our lives?

## Application:

The "medicine" for pride is to practice humility (If time allows, see Philippians 2:1-11 for more faith imagination). Pastor Silverio gave these two suggestions to get started: (1) Serve people, especially those you keep critiquing or comparing yourself to. (2) Serve God, seek more ways to say "yes" to God. Which of these do you sense God directing your attention to?

## Next Steps 2023

- What are some of your next steps in faith for 2023? Share any updates with your group.
- When you complete a next step, tell us about it using the QR code below.

## Prayer

- Share praises and prayer requests with one another.
- Guided prayer: God, heal the wounds that have allow pride into our heart. Lead us on the path of practicing humility. May every step we take on this path be for your glory and draw us closer and closer to you. AMEN.

