

Breaking Through Walls of Pride!
A Personal and Small Group Experience

This journey of looking at WALLS as a metaphor to get at the ways we are blocked from Life as God would love for us to experience it has been challenging and interesting. One of the interesting things is how people have reacted. Some really resonate well with the metaphor and others can't seem to apply it at all. I had an interesting discussion this week that I mentioned in the message about how men and women generally might be responding differently with men having the harder struggle of seeing the relevancy of this metaphor.

That all led me to one WALL that men deal with a lot (and I am assuming women do as well) that may contribute to our "not being able to see our walls". The wall is pride! P-R-I-D-E..... Us men get the jokes about "never asking for directions".... "putting our two cents in.." Shying away from conversations about relationship discussions where we are not supposed to "fix him, her or them". We enter into conversations we are knowledgeable about but shy away from topics or "pretend" we know more than we know. It was wisdom I should heed when Abe Lincoln said, "It is better to remain silent and thought a fool than open your mouth and remove all doubt!"

Pride manifests itself in different ways (for men and women). How do you know when someone is caught behind the wall of pride? Perhaps think about a person that you could describe. What does pride look like? (ie. Arrogance, controlling, critical, hiding from people and situations they can't control, etc.)

Talk about pride and the affect it has on one's relationship with God!

Now what about your self—everyone talk about a specific way you struggle with pride?

Now to breakthrough! God is and was constantly trying to lead people to see their WALL of Pride and surrender to Him for breakthrough! As you reflect and discuss these passages! How is God leading you to deal with the Wall of Pride in your own life? God, what specifically are you saying to me to set me free?

Luke 18:9-14

Luke 18:15-17

Luke 18:18-30

Practicing Breaking Through?

"Connecting With God" Weekly Guide

This booklet is a resource to help you "Connect with God" this week. He deeply desires ongoing personal connection with you. You are that important to Him.

This Page has some scripture verses for you to meditate on each day this week. Notice the helpful hints section – these are great things to consider when personally engaging with God through His Word.

The Center Pages contain the notes and outline for the message given on Sunday. The message is also available as an audio download from www.pointofgracechurch.org

The Back Page has a study written specifically for a small group of people (or an individual) to drill down deeper into a particular aspect of the week's theme. Small groups can review memorable points of the week's message and then work through the study concluding with a time of prayer.

Scripture & Meditation Guide - October 3-8

Helpful Hints:

- 1) Find a quiet place along with 15-20 minutes!
- 2) Focus on God for a few moments asking His Spirit to speak to your heart and offload- ing your heart of stifling, burdens, guilt, worry etc.!
- 3) Listen to Him by reading a section of scripture then rereading it several times, dwell- ing on "words and phrases" which grab your heart's attention. As you read and reread keep asking God, "What do You want me to hear?" "Why this word at this time?" "How are You inviting me to respond? Keep talking it over with Him—chew!
- 4) Pray (and journal) everything that is on your heart and mind as you are ready!

Worship Him, Bless Him, Thank Him, Ask Him, Trust Him

Notice the promises you see!

Monday:	Proverbs 3: 5-10
Tuesday:	Matthew 6:19-24
Wednesday:	Matthew 6:25-34
Thursday:	Matthew 7:7-12
Friday:	Matthew 7:24-29
Saturday:	Matthew 8:5-13