



# Crosstalk

## Truly Free Session 4

6pm-7pm on Thursday  
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### Breaking the Snare of Pride

Pride goes before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall. - Proverbs 16:18

#### Bible Study and Group Discussion

1. Pride is trusting in our own **Strength, righteousness, and wisdom**. But pride goes well beyond these three categories. Pride rears its ugly head and invites in the enemy any time we trust ourselves more than we trust God. What can pride look like in people's lives when they have one of the following attitudes?

I trust in my sense of right and wrong more than what God says in His Word...

I trust in my decisions for the future more than God's leading and direction...

I trust in my resourcefulness more than God's provision...

*Pride opens the door to spiritual attack.*

2. **Read Luke 22:31-34 and Mark 14:27-31.** What was the nature of Peter's pride? How could this sinful attitude become a doorway for spiritual attack in his life?

3. Jesus emphatically told Peter he would deny Him before the night was done. But Peter looked at Jesus and, with passion and conviction, said, "You are wrong!" There are times when we read the Bible, hear God speak, and say, "God, you are wrong!" What are examples of ways we disagree with God? How does the enemy use these against us?

*It seems like everyone who has pride in their lives can't see it is there.*

4. **Read Matthew 16:21-23.** Jesus declared he would die on the cross and rise again. As we look back at this moment in history, we know Jesus' sacrifice was the only way our sins could be washed away. When Peter, in his own strength, tried to stop Jesus from going to the cross, he had no idea what he was talking about. What implications would it have had on humanity if Peter had gotten his way and Jesus hadn't gone to the cross?

Because God's strength won - and Jesus did go to the cross and rise again - what results has that had on human history?

*Righteous living does not make us righteous. Only the blood of Jesus Christ does.*

5. **Read Job 1:6-12.** What do you learn in this passage about God's power and authority over Satan? How do you respond to the idea that God gave the enemy permission to come against Job?

6. **Read Job 32:1-12, 33:8-9, 36:3, and 40:8.** In this session we learned Job was a righteous man, but he had become proud of his righteousness. What is the difference between being a righteous person through the grace of God and trusting in our own righteousness?

What attitudes and behaviors begin to slip into lives when we become self-righteous?

7. Our trust is in Christ and Christ alone. What has Jesus done to prove He is trustworthy? How can we find true and eternal righteousness in Jesus alone?

How can keeping our eyes on Jesus and the cross become an antidote to self-righteousness?

8. **Read 1 King 22:7-8 and 22:19-23.** These passages can seem shocking and troublesome, because it appears God is working against Ahab and bring disaster to his life. But shift gears for a moment and think about a loving parent. What are some of the reasons a caring and responsible parent might discipline a child?

When God sees one of His children trusting in their own wisdom, He knows disaster is on the horizon. What are some of the means God might use to bring a child to a place of repentance and humility? How are each of these means, ultimately, an act of compassionate love from a heavenly Father?

9. God allowed Peter, Job, and Ahab to come under attack. Think about how each of their stories ends. How does repentance and a humble heart lead to healing and hope? How does resistance and refusal to respond to God's discipline lead to serious consequences?

*Could it be God allows us to come under attack so we will repent and humbly run back to Him?*

10. Which of these areas of pride are you most tempted to wander into: Trusting your own strength? Trusting your own righteousness? Trusting your own wisdom? Why do you think that is so?

How can you battle against this, repent, and run to God with a humble heart? How can your group members pray for you and encourage you as you address this area of potential pride?

*The straightforward solution to the problem of pride is to always depend on the Lord.*