

GOD KNOWS THE FUTURE AND HAS A PLAN

Family Devotion – Lesson 85

MEMORY VERSE – PROVERBS 16:18

“Pride goeth before destruction, and a haughty spirit before a fall”

- Pride can be defined as self-reliance, self-righteousness, self-promotion, and self-centeredness. Self is certainly at the center of Pride. Pride is often the cause of destruction as a haughty spirit is before a fall. Haughty is a word used to describe a lofty and prideful view of self.
- God knows the future and has a plan for us. He warns us in His word...
 - Pride will bring destruction in our lives.
 - A haughty spirit will cause us to fall.
- God’s plan is for us to be humble, which is the opposite of being prideful. He tells us what is in our future if we practice humility...
 - *“God resisteth the proud, but giveth **grace** unto the humble”* (James 4:6).
 - *“Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before **honour** is humility”* (Prov. 18:12).
 - *“For whosoever exalteth himself shall be abased; and he that humbleth himself shall be **exalted**”* (Lk. 14:11).
- The greatest destruction is a place called hell. It is a place for the Devil and all those who reject Jesus Christ as Saviour. Pride definitely has something to do with those who end up there. Self-reliance, self-righteousness, self-promotion, and self-centeredness will easily keep someone from trusting Christ.
- For this reason it has been said that “pride is the official religion of hell.”



QUESTIONS TO DISCUSS

- How do you think the Devil uses pride to keep someone from believing in Jesus?
- How did the Devil tempt Jesus with pride in Matthew 4:1-11?
- Have you ever noticed pride in your life? Explain.



PRAYER TIME

- Ask God to teach you how to be humble.
- Ask God to protect you from being prideful.



CHALLENGE

- Who was it in the book of Acts who was full of pride and then smitten down to die?