

THE WEEKLY – LOVE IN ACTION

VOLUNTEER TO OPEN IN PRAYER

BREAKING ICE (20 min.)

Share about those in the church who encourage you?
How can you let them know? Will you do it?
Do you want to be a positive person? Are you?
How could you be even more positive?

PART 1 (30 min) *Try not to think of others (only think of yourself) as you answer and think about these statements. Look at one side and then the other and talk about what each one looks like. Feel free to share where you are at as your group works through them.*

- a/ Focus on the failure of others
- b/ Are self-righteous; have a critical fault finding spirit;
look at own life/faults with a telescope but others with a microscope.
- c/ Are independent; have a self-sufficient spirit
- d/ Maintain control; must have their own way
- e/ Have to prove that they are right
- f/ Claim rights
- g/ Have a demanding spirit
- h/ Are self protective of time, rights and reputation
- i/ Desire to be served
- j/ Desire to be a success
- k/ Desire for self advancement
- l/ Are driven to be recognized and appreciated
- m/ Are wounded when others are promoted and they are overlooked
- n/ Think "the ministry is privileged to have me!"
- o/ Think of what they can do for God
- p/ Feel confident in how much they know
- q/ Are self-conscious
- r/ Keep people at arms length
- s/ Are quick to blame others
- t/ Are unapproachable
- u/ Are defensive when criticized
- v/ Are concerned with being respectable
- w/ Are concerned about what others think
- x/ Work to maintain image and protect reputation
- y/ Find it difficult to share their spiritual needs with others
- z/ Wants to be sure no one finds out about their sin
- a/ Have a hard time saying, "I was wrong. Would you forgive me?"
- b/ Deal in generalities when confessing sin
- c/ Are concerned about the consequences of their sin
- d/ Are remorseful for being caught
- e/ Wait for the other party to come and ask forgiveness in a conflict
- f/ Compare themselves with others and feel deserving of honour
- g/ Are blind to their true heart condition
- h/ Don't think they have anything of which to repent
- i/ Don't think they need revival (think everyone else does)

PART 2/ Look to the Book (30 min) The Bible & Pride.. being proud..

Turn to Proverbs: Prov 3:34; 15:25; 16:5; 16:19; 18:12 Isaiah 2:12

Read Ezekiel 28:12-19 This passage speaking of the King of Tyre is also a description of Satan the force behind the King and the force behind all evil;

Read Isaiah 14:3-17 This passage speaking about the King of Babylon also gives insight to the spiritual force behind him... Satan Lucifer.. morning star... son of the dawn... the one fallen from heaven....

What was the chief sin of Satan and the first sin of Adam and Eve? See Isaiah 14:13-14; Gen 3:5 (your eyes will be open/ you will be like God – exalting oneself)

READ Luke 1:51; Rom 12:16; 1Cor 13:14; 2Tim 3:2; James 4:6; 1Peter 5:5;
What does God do to the proud? To the humble?

Part 3/(10min) Pray to break the spirit of pride in your own life.

- a/ Are overwhelmed with their own spiritual need
- b/ Are compassionate; have a forgiving spirit; look for the best in others
Esteem all others better than self
- c/ Have a dependant spirit; recognize others needs
- d/ Surrender control
- e/ Are willing to yield the right to be right
- f/ Yield rights
- g/ Have a giving spirit
- h/ Are self-denying
- i/ Are motivated to serve others
- j/ Desire to be faithful to make others a success
- k/ Desire to promote others
- l/ Have a sense of unworthiness; are thrilled to be used at all;
- m/ Are eager for others to get credit; rejoice when others are lifted up
- n/ Think, "I don't deserve to serve in this ministry
- o/ Know that they have nothing to offer God
- p/ Are humbled by how much they learn
- q/ Have no concern with self at all
- r/ Risk getting close to others; willing to take the risks of loving immediately
- s/ Accept personal responsibility; can see where they were wrong
- t/ Are easy to be entreated
- u/ Receive criticism with a humble open heart
- v/ Are concerned with being real
- w/ Knows that all that matters is what God knows
- x/ Die to own reputation
- y/ Are willing to be transparent with others
- z/ Are willing to be exposed; know once broken, there is nothing to lose
- a/ Are quick to admit fault and to seek forgiveness
- b/ Deal in specifics
- c/ Are grieved over the root of their sin
- d/ Are repentant over sin and forsake it
- e/ Take the initiative to be reconciled: gets there first
- f/ Compare themselves with the holiness of God; feel desperate for mercy
- g/ Walk in the light
- h/ Have a continual heart attitude toward repentance
- j/ Continually sense their need for a fresh encounter with the Holy Spirit