



# SHATTERPROOF

*overcoming life's trials*

## WELCOME

## GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS | OVERCOMING PRIDE

- ◆ Spend a few minutes greeting everyone in the group.

## ICE BREAKER/INTRODUCTION QUESTIONS

- ◆ How would you describe a prideful person? What are some qualities you've seen in humble people?

## DISCUSSION

1. Read [James 4:1-3](#). What do these verses say is the source of quarrels between people?
2. Talk about a disagreement you've seen in a sit com or movie. What was at the root of the quarrel?
3. We face external trials in this life, but it's ultimately the choice we make with our internal challenges that determines the strength of our faith. So far in James, we've looked at the challenges of anger, favoritism, apathy and the words we use. This week's verses are an illustration of pride in action. Based on these verses, how would you define pride?
4. Describe a time when you've been at odds with someone. What role did pride play in your disagreement?
5. Read [Proverbs 16:18](#). When have you seen pride operating in your life? How has pride impacted your relationships with family, friends and co-workers? How would you describe your relationship with God during those times?
6. James uses the Greek word, "hedone" twice in this section. Hedone is the love of self or self-pleasure. It's where we get the word, "hedonism." How are selfishness and pride related? How would self-centeredness contribute to relational conflict?
7. Hedone is finding our identity in the sum total of our accomplishments. We often fight to try to prove something about ourselves. What do you often seek to prove about yourself? How has that drive affected your relationships?
8. Read [James 4:4-5](#). How are spiritually unfaithful, or adulterous people, described? What do these verses reveal about what God wants for us? How would you describe the intensity of God's desire for us to be faithful to Him?
9. In what areas of your life are you finding your value in what you do or how you perform? (This can be bad or good behavior.) Are there any areas where you find your worth in what Christ did for you? Describe the difference.
10. Read [James 4:6-10](#). Define "grace." To whom does God give grace? (vs. 6) How is a humble person's heart different from the prideful person's?
11. The first part of verse 6 says that He gives us more grace. It's not about more effort, but about more grace. Grace trumps hedone. Grace trumps pride. Describe a time when you have you seen this truth play out?
12. List the commands and promises in verses 7-10. Talk about their connections.
13. Humility is not thinking less of yourself, it's thinking of yourself less. It's not denying that you have gifts and abilities, but using them for the sake of others. In what relationship or situation could you think of yourself less this week? How could you use abilities or resources that you have (that generally feed your pride) for the benefit of others?
14. Verse 8 tells us to draw near to God, and promises He will draw near to us. Are you experiencing a gap between you and God? What have you allowed to come between you and God? What steps could you take to draw near to Him?
15. Even though we were saved by grace, we tend to live by works. But we cannot produce fruit. We were made to walk humbly with our God and draw upon His grace to persevere, triumph and make a difference. What area of your life needs God's strength and grace? What in your own heart needs to change?

## PRAYER

- ◆ Ask your community group to pray that God would help you humbly submit rather than choosing pride in a specific situation in your life.