

PART 1: Remote Controlled

INTRODUCTION

There is a sin that is so common to the human experience, it is the gateway to all other sins. It promises to make us bigger, better, and more important, but only makes us smaller and meaner. It strips us of our capacity to connect with others. It stands between us and our heavenly Father.

So, what is "it" and how do we kill it?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. In what ways does our culture reward pride? In what ways have you seen that affect people's lives?
- 2. Talk about a time when you knew the right thing to do but let pride prevent you from doing it. What did it cost you?
- 3. Read Philippians 2:5-8. What would it look like for you to have the same mindset as Jesus in your relationships with others? What are some practical obstacles to you treating others that way?
- 4. How does pride manifest itself in you? In what ways do you protect your own image?
- 5. What does pride masquerade as in you—confidence, intelligence, fashion, sarcasm, a commitment to excellence, something else?
- 6. What is one relationship in which you need to initiate reconciliation? What can this group do to support you?

MOVING FORWARD

Pride crowds out other people. It crowds out God. Pride is a prison. Saying no to pride is saying yes to God. Root out the pride in your life. Kill it before it kills you. Why would you opt to follow something that is killing you when you've been invited to follow someone who died for you?

CHANGING YOUR MIND

In his pride the wicked man does not seek him; in all his thoughts there is no room for God.

Psalm 10:4