



Conversations On Who We Are Becoming

Week 5: Conversations about humility

Opening Questions

1. Do you consider yourself to be an introvert, one who draws energy in isolation, or an extrovert, one who draws energy from being around people?
2. What would you say is your greatest accomplishment?

Opening Prayer

Loving Father, you saw us drowning in sin and sent your only Son to save us from our sins, to mend all that is broken, and to lead us in the way of life. Pour out your Holy Spirit on us that we might become aware of the brokenness within and the brokenness in our world. Guide us in our conversation today, that we may grow in the grace you so freely give. In Jesus name. Amen.

Scripture

Read James 4:4-10 slowly and out loud. Read it twice if that is helpful.

Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. Or do you suppose that it is for nothing that the scripture says, "God yearns jealously for the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"? But he gives all the more grace; therefore it says, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble."

Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded. Lament and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be turned into mourning and your joy into dejection. Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will exalt you.

Reflection Questions

1. What word, phrase, or image stands out to you?
2. For God so loved the world that he sent his only son, yet James warns not to be a friend of the world. What kind of “world” should we not befriend?
3. In what ways does God oppose the proud?
4. Has pride been something you have struggled with? If so, how did you become aware of your pride?
5. What does it look like for us to “resist the devil”?
6. What is required to lament, mourn, and weep over others who have been oppressed, particularly those who have suffered under the weight of big systems of sin?

Final Questions

1. Pause and reflect on what you have heard in today’s conversation. What is the Holy Spirit saying? What is God nudging you to consider? What is God’s invitation for you today?
2. What steps can you take in the next few days to begin to move in the direction of humility?