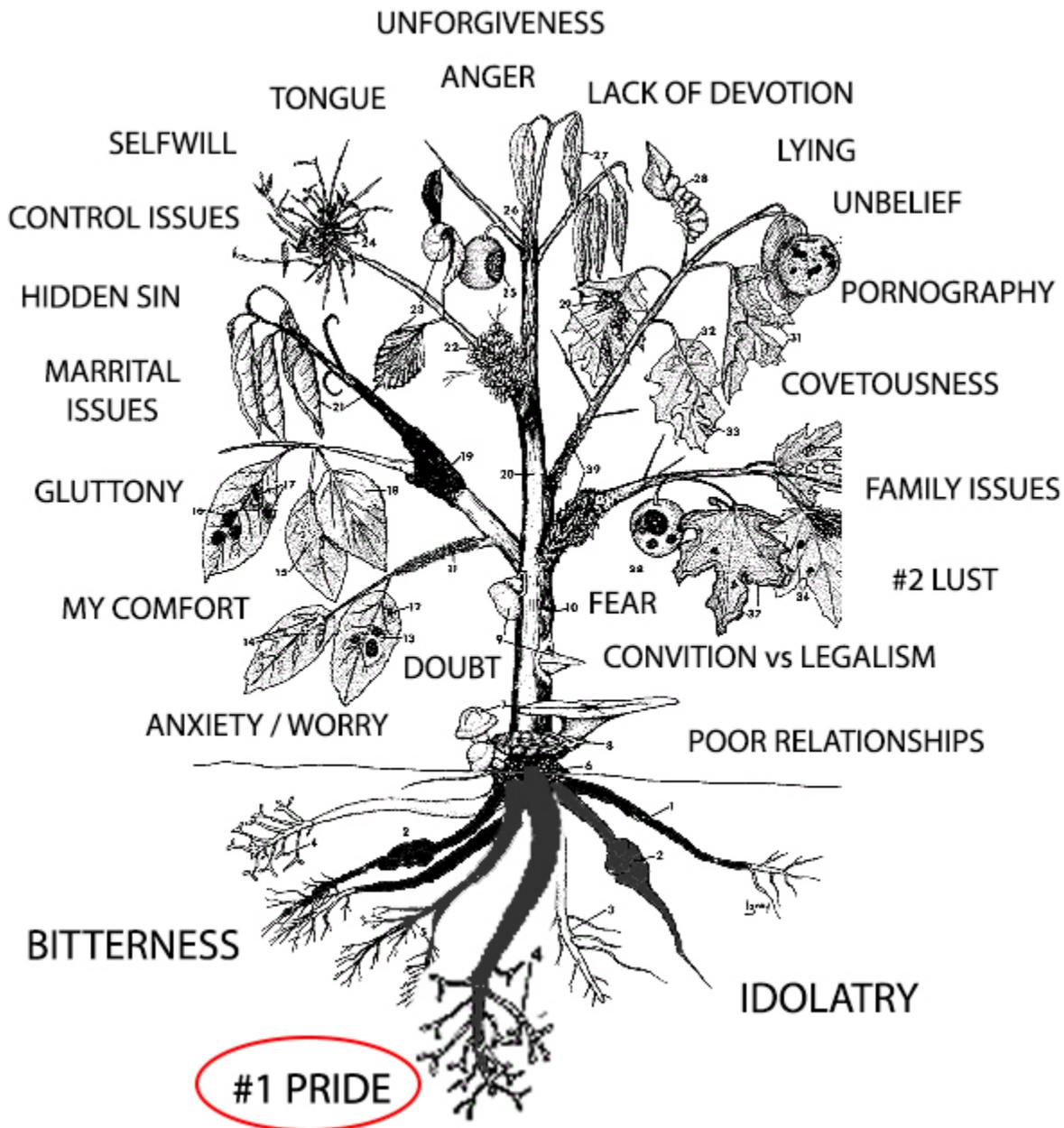


Not Uncommon to Man- Calling

Sanctify them in the truth; your word is truth. John 17:17

To continue our study, we are going to start out by addressing PRIDE which was the #1 issue that was repeated as a problem for men in our poll. PRIDE is a root of the outward fleshly manifestations as referenced in the dying tree or weed as seen here.



To address the root and what springs up from it, we have come up with 5 questions to run it through as stated here.

1. What does God say about it?
 - a. Diving into the scripture

2. What does the world say?
 - a. The culture, the flesh, the schemes of the enemy
3. How is my character affected?
 - a. Compromised, shame, self-loathing, mistrust
4. How is this affecting those closest to me?
 - a. God, The Church, wives, parents, siblings, children, co-workers
5. Do I need to change my mindset about it?
 - a. Repentance, kingdom minded, calling, goal, mission, vision

The 5th question requires action and to fully know what action we must take we must know the "Plan" (our calling)



God has a calling and plan for each of us. It is vital that we know and understand what that calling is "where there is no vision the people perish" (Proverbs 29:18).

Luke 14:27-29

²⁷And if you do not carry your own cross and follow me, you cannot be my disciple.

²⁸"But don't begin until you count the cost. For who would begin construction of a building without first calculating the cost to see if there is enough money to finish it? ²⁹Otherwise, you might complete only the foundation before running out of money, and then everyone would laugh at you.

Proverbs 15:21-22

²¹Foolishness brings joy to those with no sense; a sensible person stays on the right path. ²²Plans go wrong for lack of advice; many advisers bring success.

Psalms 143:7-9

⁷Come quickly, LORD, and answer me, for my depression deepens. Don't turn away from me, or I will die. ⁸Let me hear of your unfailing love each morning, for I am trusting you. Show me where to walk, for I give myself to you. ⁹Rescue me from my enemies, LORD; I run to you to hide me.

Proverbs 16:8-9

⁸Better to have little, with godliness, than to be rich and dishonest. ⁹We can make our plans, but the LORD determines our steps.

John 15:15-17

¹⁵I no longer call you slaves, because a master doesn't confide in his slaves. Now you are my friends, since I have told you everything the Father told me. ¹⁶You didn't choose me. I chose you. I appointed you to go and produce lasting fruit, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask for, using my name. ¹⁷This is my command: Love each other.

1 Corinthians 1:28-29

²⁸God chose things despised by the world, things counted as nothing at all, and used them to bring to nothing what the world considers important. ²⁹As a result, no one can ever boast in the presence of God.

Romans 8:27-29

²⁷And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will. ²⁸And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them. ²⁹For God knew his people in advance, and he chose them to become like his Son, so that his Son would be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters.

Philippians 3:13-15

¹³No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us. ¹⁵Let all who are spiritually mature agree on these things. If you disagree on some point, I believe God will make it plain to you.

1 Peter 1:15-16

¹⁵But now you must be holy in everything you do, just as God who chose you is holy. ¹⁶For the Scriptures say, "You must be holy because I am holy."

2 Timothy 1:8-10

⁸So never be ashamed to tell others about our Lord. And don't be ashamed of me, either, even though I'm in prison for him. With the strength God gives you, be ready to suffer with me for the sake of the Good News. ⁹For God saved us and called us to live a holy life. He did this, not because we deserved it, but because that was his plan from before the beginning of time—to show us his grace through Christ Jesus. ¹⁰And now he has made all of this plain to us by the appearing of Christ Jesus, our Savior. He broke the power of death and illuminated the way to life and immortality through the Good News.

Ecclesiastes 9:9-11

⁹Live happily with the woman you love through all the meaningless days of life that God has given you under the sun. The wife God gives you is your reward for all your earthly toil. **¹⁰Whatever you do, do well. For when you go to the grave, there will be no work or planning or knowledge or wisdom.**

¹¹I have observed something else under the sun. The fastest runner doesn't always win the race, and the strongest warrior doesn't always win the battle. The wise sometimes go hungry, and the skillful are not necessarily wealthy. And those who are educated don't always lead successful lives. It is all decided by chance, by being in the right place at the right time.

So before we proceed into next week, let's begin to pray and ask the Father what is our calling and what is the goal.

“Anything that refreshes you without distracting you from, diminishing or destroying your final goal (calling) is a legitimate pleasure in your life.” ~ Ravi Zacharias

Brothers we believe that we live in such a time (and what a privilege it is) that we need to be awake, vigilante, sober and full of the Holy Spirit having our lamps full of oil and the extra oil ready to go. God has given us everything we need to walk after Him to love Him with all our heart mind soul and strength, to love one another, and serve His set apart ones. Let's go to the stream and be the ones that cup the water to our mouths to drink and not have our heads down in the water lapping like dogs. Let's be Mighty Men of Valor. (Judges 7)

1 Corinthians 10:13

¹³No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.