

Discuss

The laugh that we don’t want to hear from God is the laugh of derision, and it’s sparked by our pride. God never laughs at our weakness or failure, but only at the proud who act as if they know more, are more, and have no need of, God Himself.

“In the pride of your heart you say, ‘I am a god....’” ([Ezekiel 28:2. NIV](#))

“Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall.” ([Proverbs 16:18. NIV](#))

- What are some things you take pride in?
- Do you ever - consciously or unconsciously - take full credit for your strengths or the things you have?

The life that only hears God’s good laugh is not a life of perfection, but of humility. Humility is gained through a sober judgment of our strengths and weaknesses.

“Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment.” ([Romans 12:3. NIV](#))

- What are your strengths and weaknesses?
- What does it look like to take an unhealthy interest in your strengths and weaknesses?
- When was the last time you owned your mistakes or sin?

Humility knows that when it comes to assessing our position in life, the honor and glory goes to God.

“[Do not] take pride in one man over against another. For who makes you different from anyone else? What do you have that you did not receive? And if you did receive it, why do you boast as though you did not?” ([1 Corinthians 4:6b-7. NIV](#))

- How are you giving honor and glory to God with your strengths and weaknesses?
- How are you relying on God to direct your life?
- Have you spent some time recently thinking of others? Do you take an interest in learning about others? What does that look like?

Next Steps

Take a self-assessment of your strengths and weaknesses. Spend some time praying and giving God thanks for them and asking for His guidance on how to live in light of them. In addition, spend some time thinking of others around you and how to encourage them.

June 12: [Crisis Assistance Ministry](#) & [Hope Vibes Serve Day](#)

June 27: [Starting Line](#) & [Game Time](#)

Continued Reading

Read Proverbs [1:20-33](#); [16:18](#); Psalm [2:4](#); [37:13](#); [59:8](#); Ezekiel 28:[2](#), [17](#); [Isaiah 14:12-14](#); [Obadiah 1:3](#); 2 Chronicles 26:[5](#), [16](#); [Romans 12:3](#); [1 Corinthians 4:6b-7](#).

Prayer

God, you alone created me and have given me all that I have. Forgive me for any ways or times that I try to take the credit for myself. Thank you for all that I have and for the people around me. Help me to know my strengths and weaknesses and use them as you would want me to. Help me to take an interest in others, encourage them and show them your love.