

The Path of Denying Ourselves  
Let Go of Our Pride and Give Glories to God

**Main Bible Verse:**

(II Corinthians 4:7) But we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us.

**Summary:**

- Many people value their pride, this is caused by the original sin:
  - When Adam and Eve sinned, the first thing they did is to cover up their shame with leaves. As the descendent of Adam and Eve, humans have the tendency to focus of their pride and to hide from God. What they did not know is that nothing hides from God.
- God covered them in the garment of skin (Genesis 3:21):
  - This skin represented Jesus Christ became the sacrificial lamb for our sins on the cross. The crucifixion of Jesus Christ, His life and His precious blood, became the covenant of salvation, pardoned and covered our sins.
- Man used the leaves of the fig tree to cover themselves:
  - This solution is temporary. It is our own thoughts and methods, the worldly wisdom, for the purpose of maintain our status, pride, and sins. But the result is in vain. It will only cause inability to face the problems of our lives but will not keep us away from our shame. All the fame and success of the world will end in vain, like chaff driven by the desert wind (Jeremiah 13:23-24)
- God knows our lack of strength to change ourselves and sent the Holy Spirit to help us. When we are willing to let go of our pride, we will be able to see the glory and life of God helping us and covering us. As said in John 3:30, "He must become greater; I must become less."
- When these people let go of their pride and not influenced by how others see them, God helped them and blessed them:
  1. Nicodemus (John 3:1-2/7:50-51)
  2. The Samaritan Woman (John 4:1-7 、 28-29)
  3. The king of Nineveh walked down from his throne. When he humbled himself before God and let go of his pride in front of his people, God's salvation was upon Nineveh. (Jonah 3:5-8)
  4. When the Syrian Phoenicia woman let go of her pride and came before the Lord, her daughter was healed. (Mark 7:28-29)
- On the other hand, David's wife, Saul's daughter Michal, could not let go of her pride and was unable to receive the blessings of God. (2 Samuel 6:16-23)
- Let go of our pride + Ask in shameless audacity
  - This is how we ask for God's help (Luke 11:9-10)
  - This is how Jacob asked God to bless him, with shameless audacity. He did not stop asking until God blessed him. (Genesis 32:26-27)
- (Isaiah 53:2-3) Jesus was despised and pierced for us. All the path He walked, was not about Himself, or His pride, but the work God has sent Him. Jesus was obedient to death— even death on a cross, completed the great commission God has sent Him.
- God does not choose heroes, but those who manifest the glory of God. Let us set our mind to become such chosen people.

- Jesus set a wonderful example for us. No matter how others criticized or slandered Him (John 1:46 Doubted by Nathanael /Matthew 11:3 Questioned by John the Baptist/Matthew 27:41-42 Mocked by the chief priests, the teachers of the law and the elders/John 6:60-66 Deserted by His Disciples), He stood firm declaring the glory of God. He was determined during His thirty-three and half year on earth, to do the will of him who sent me and to finish his work.
- (Philippians 2:8) Jesus has set an example for us. When we put Jesus in our lives and learn to let go of our pride and our own ways of thinking, we will be renewed and strengthened. (2 Corinthians 4:7 · 16-18)
- Keep no record of wrongs. Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus. (Philippians 3:13-14)

**Conclusion:**

- All our problems are caused by our pride. When we are willing to let go of our pride and give glories to God. When we are willing to live such a life, we will see God's salvation and help in our lives and we will witness God will do a new thing.
- (2 Thessalonians 1:11) With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith.
- (Ephesians 3:21) to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.