



THE REVOLUTIONARY DISCIPLE

Identifying Pride in the Five Spheres

A Worksheet to Help You Identify Areas of Growth in Your Discipleship Journey



IDENTIFYING PRIDE IN THE FIVE SPHERES

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Complete this worksheet with a group or on your own.

As we mention in *The Revolutionary Disciple*, it's important for disciples of Jesus to admit any pride they might have in their lives. This is true for every disciple, no matter how long we've been on the journey of discipleship.

This can be challenging because pride is sometimes difficult to detect in ourselves—at least without help. That's why we've put together this exercise, which offers questions to help you process areas of potential growth with regard to pride.

Read through the questions below for each sphere of discipleship and take the courageous and humble step of asking God, "Lord, do I struggle with pride here?" As you process these challenging questions, start by writing in the circle for each sphere *one area of growth*. First, though, read through the questions directly below about serving, submitting, listening, and confessing—the four characteristics we outline in Chapter 4 of the book.

The goal with this exercise as a whole is to help you be honest about where you currently are so that after you recognize any problem areas, you can take the next step toward healing and humility.

QUESTIONS TO GET STARTED

These questions will help you think about what pride might look like in your life. You can prayerfully read through these, but you don't need to write anything down until you go through the spheres' questions.

Serving

- How well do you serve people in your life?
- Do you serve regardless of recognition you might receive? Or do you tend to serve only when you'll be noticed?
- Do you serve from a willing heart? Or out of obligation?

Submitting

- Whom has God placed in authority over you?
- How well do you submit to them when they ask something of you directly or indirectly?
- If someone asked those in authority over you whether or not you were humble, what would they say?

Listening

- How well do you take advice and listen to others?
- Do you ask for input from others when you need help?
- Would the people in your life say you're a good listener?

Confessing

- Do you readily admit when you've made a mistake?
- Do you regularly confess your sins to God and to other people?
- Who in your life knows your deepest struggles?

Now that you've primed the pumps about potential pride in your life, the following questions will help you think through what pride might look like for you in each sphere of discipleship. Be honest as you assess where you currently stand. The only path to healing is through honesty.

Record in the circle below one area of pride you're struggling with right now. Then, at the end, you'll have the opportunity to list one action step for each sphere.

SPHERE I: ABIDING IN CHRIST

Questions

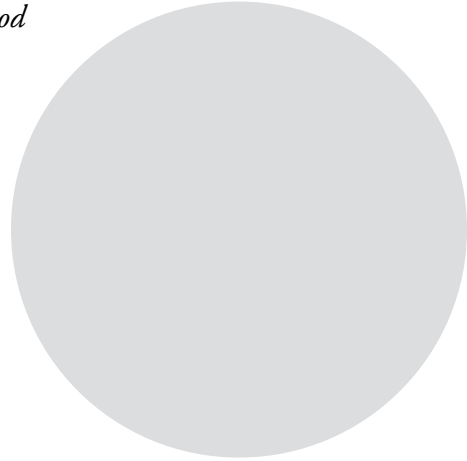
- Have you fully submitted yourself to Christ to seek obedience in every area of life?
- Do you think you can experience intimacy with God *without being obedient* to God?
- Do you deny or minimize your sin when it's exposed? Or do you confess it to God?
- Are you actively seeking to obey God through his Word and by his Spirit?
- Is your life generally characterized by serving God's agenda or yours?



SPHERE 2: THE CHURCH SPHERE

Questions

- Do you think to yourself, *I don't need the church; I'm good with God on my own?*
- Do you follow the leaders at your church when they ask you to join a discipleship group?
- Do you regularly serve the people in your church?
- Do you seek advice from those in the church who are older than you?
- Have you been discipled? If not, have you asked anyone to disciple you?
- Have you spoken ill of the leadership of your church in slight or subtle ways?
- When you're leading or teaching, do you serve people in practical ways as you do these?



SPHERE 3: THE HOME SPHERE

Questions

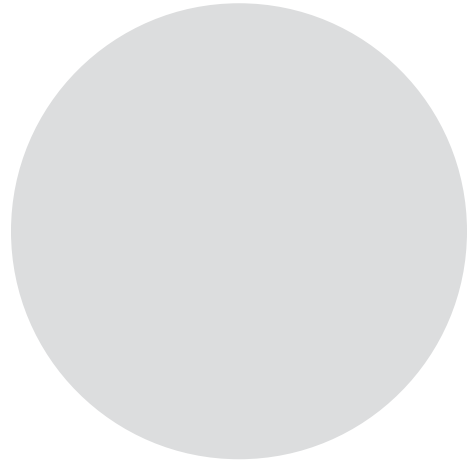
- Husbands, do you lead your wife with gentleness and a humble heart? Or do you tend to “lord” your authority over her?
- Wives, do you humbly submit to the leadership of your husband? Or do you tend to do things your own way?
- Parents, are you kind and patient with your kids? Or do you tend to lead your kids harshly?
- Do you regularly confess your mistakes and sins to your spouse and kids?
- Do you get advice about how to raise your kids? Or do you rely on your own understanding?
- For all, do you show honor to your parents in word and deed even after you've left home or started a family of your own?



SPHERE 4: THE WORLD SPHERE

Questions

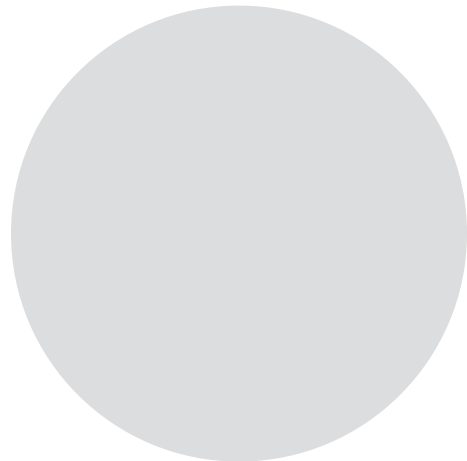
- At work, do you submit to those over you? Or do you subtly rebel against your boss or manager in small ways?
- Do you readily admit your mistakes or blunders to your coworkers—and even your supervisor? Or do you tend to cover them up?
- Do you serve others in the workplace?
- Are you doing everything your boss asks of you with a humble heart? Or do you operate from a place of pride?
- As you live in the world, do you obey the laws of the land? Or do you operate as you see fit?
- In areas of play, hobbies, or sports, do you find yourself regularly acting in anger or rebellion against the rules of the game or the authorities? What do you teach your kids about authority in sports and other activities?



SPHERE 5: THE SPIRITUAL REALM

Questions

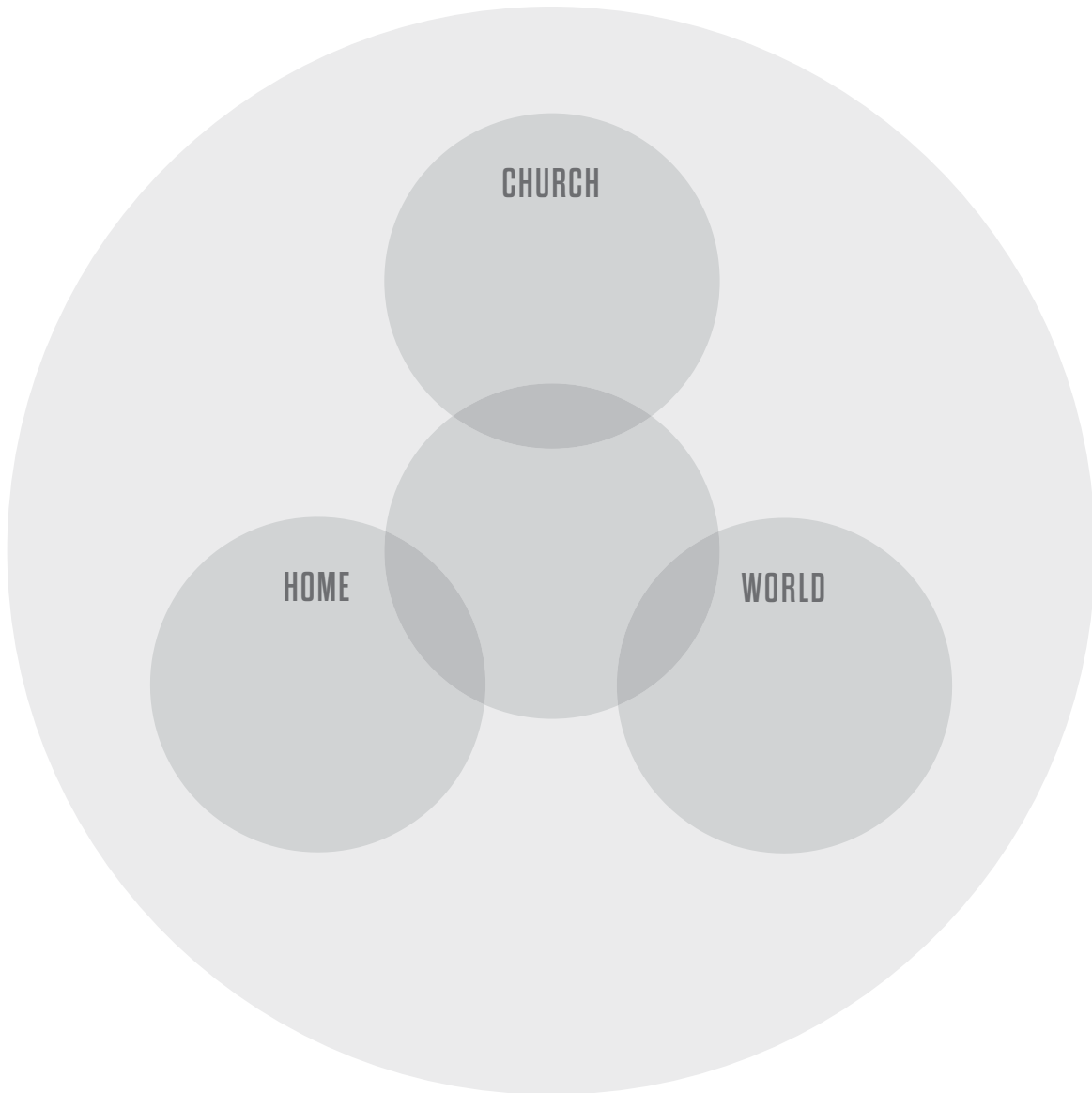
- Do you believe there's a spiritual battle going on around you?
- Do you guard yourself against the attacks of the enemy through prayer, confession, and accountability? Or do you tend to fight battles on your own?
- Do you tell those around you when you're feeling spiritually weak or keep it to yourself?
- Do you allow others to encourage you when you need it?
- Do you speak words of encouragement to others who are under spiritual attack or experiencing isolation from God's people?
- Have you allowed Satan to gain a foothold in your family life due to your pride?
- Do you separate your work life and your politics from your walk with Christ?



PRAYER AND ACTION

Prayer

1. Take what you wrote about pride in the circles above and put them all on the chart below. (The middle sphere represents Sphere 1, “Abiding in Christ” and the large sphere represents Sphere 5, “The Spiritual Realm.”) Then pray through each one, confess it to God, and ask for forgiveness and help.



2. On the next page, take action to overcome areas of pride in your life. Prayerfully read our ideas for action for each sphere to get you thinking, and then write down just one action.

Sphere 1: Abiding in Christ

God, what's one action step you would like me to take toward humility in my relationship with you?

Ideas

- Decide to be a disciple of Jesus, not just a convert.
- Learn to say, "God, I need your help."
- Confess your sins to Christ aloud and completely.
- Seek intimacy with God by pursuing wholehearted obedience him.

What is one way you will take action to pursue humility in this sphere?

When will you start taking action in these areas?

Sphere 2: The Home Sphere

God, what's one action step you would like me to take toward humility in the church sphere?

Ideas

- Commit to a particular church, and then stay there until you're sent out.
- Submit to the requests and heart of your leadership at your church.
- Find a way to serve others practically in your church.
- Ask for advice from an older, wiser disciple at your church.
- Come under a reliable and trustworthy disciple-maker and submit to their process of disciple-making for a season.
- Readily and appropriately admit to those around you when you've made a mistake or sinned.

What is one way you will take action to pursue humility in this sphere?

When will you start taking action in these areas?

Sphere 3: The Church Sphere

God, what's one action step you would like me to take toward humility in the home sphere?

Ideas

- Men, love your wife through humble service.
- Wives, humbly submit to your husband's leadership.
- Honor your father and mother by listening to their requests and meeting those requests as best you can.
- Do not cause your children to become unnecessarily angry; be patient with their weaknesses and sin.
- Readily and regularly confess your weaknesses, blinders, mistakes, errors, and sins to your spouse and kids.

What is one way you will take action to pursue humility in this sphere?

When will you start taking action in these areas?

Sphere 4: The World Sphere

God, what's one action step you would like me to take toward humility in the world sphere?

Ideas

- Truly listen to those at work in a leadership position over you and follow what they're asking of you with all your heart, regardless of your opinion about the matter (assuming it's not sinful).
- Readily and regularly confess your mistakes at work to those above, under, and alongside you on the "organizational chart."
- Find ways to serve others at work.
- Obey the laws of the land where you live, work, and play (unless it's sinful).

What is one way you will take action to pursue humility in this sphere?

When will you start taking action in these areas?

Sphere 5: The Spiritual Realm

God, what's one action step you would like me to take toward humility in the spiritual realm?

Ideas

- Acknowledge the spiritual battle around you.
- Submit yourself fully to Christ as head over you in every area of life.
- Let people in your church know when you're struggling spiritually so they can encourage you.
- Speak truth from Scripture to those around you who are discouraged.
- Renounce sin, rebellion, or Satan's hold in your life.
- Pray on all occasions about everything.

What is one way you will take action to pursue humility in this sphere?

When will you start taking action in these areas?

3. Finally, for each sphere summarize your action step in one word and place that one word in the appropriate sphere below.

