

Edging God Out

A. Happens when we...

- Put something in God's place = idolatry
- Trust in something other than God
- Value opinions other than God's

B. Problems – Pride and Fear

- Self-serving leaders **react**. Servant leaders **respond**.
- Pride (Romans 12:3)
 - Prov 13:10, 16:5, and 16:18
 - Examples – boasting, taking all the credit, showing off, doing all the talking, demanding all of the attention
- Fear (Prov 29:25)
 - Psalm 11:10/Prov 14:26 vs. Luke 12:4-5
 - Examples – hiding behind position, withholding information, intimidating others, hoarding control and revenues, discouraging honest feedback

C. Results of Pride and Fear

- Separation – “Pride and fear always separate us from God, from each other, and us from ourselves.” (pages 58-59)
- Comparison – “When you seek to determine your level of self-worth and security by comparison to others, the end result is either complacency or anxiety.” (page 60)
- Distortion – “When pride and fear isolate you from everyone else, including God, your view of reality will become increasingly misguided and your decisions will be more prone to error.”

Exalt God Only

A. This means we...

- Worship God only
- Depend on God completely
- Exalt God as your only audience and judge
- Are aware that God is watching you

B. Benefits of this E.G.O. – Humility and Confidence

- Humility
 - Humility “requires knowing whose you are and who you are.”
 - John 15:5 – “apart from me you can do nothing”
 - “There is a difference between **putting on the appearance of humility** before others and **being truly humble** in the presence and purposes of God.”
- Confidence
 - “God-grounded confidence”
 - “Jesus always knew He was unconditionally loved by His Father. That gave Him confidence to stay focused on the reason He had come.”

C. Results of Exalting God Only (from chart on page 64)

- Community and fellowship
- Contentment and generosity
- Trust and truth
- Inspiration and commitment

Altering Your Leadership E.G.O. – Hebrews 12:1-3