



EXPOSING the ENEMY

Exposing Lucifer

Focus Lucifer uses pride as a weapon to take our focus off God and move it onto ourselves. The opposite of pride is worship, not humility. Worship keeps us God-centered, defeats the sin of pride, and strengthens our faith in times of trouble.

Fun What is your favorite praise and worship song and why? Where is your favorite place to worship?

Review Key Scriptures: Isaiah 14:12–17; Ezekiel 28:12–17

1. The Genesis of Evil.

Isaiah 14:12–17; Ezekiel 28:12–17

Understanding the origin of the devil is important. Lucifer, meaning “light bearer,” was an angel created by God to reflect God’s glory as a worship leader in heaven. He was perfect in beauty and called “the anointed cherub who covers.” He turned his eyes from God onto himself and, as a result, was cast out of heaven. He convinced a third of the heavenly angels to accompany him into his realm of evil and destruction.

2. Pride Is Lucifer’s Primary Weapon.

Genesis 3:4–7; Proverbs 6:16–19; James 4:6

God resists pride. Resist means “to set yourself in battle formation against.” God loves us too much to let us succeed when we’re walking in pride, because it exposes us to spiritual attacks and weakens our spiritual authority.

3. Worship Is the Answer to Pride.

Psalms 103:1–14; Psalm 16:8–9

The opposite of pride is not humility, but worship. Pride is removed when we genuinely worship, because our focus is set on God and not ourselves. Worship magnifies the Lord in our hearts and keeps our faith strong. God has given us a garment of praise to use against the spirit of fear or heaviness. Worship combats the enemy and all he brings against us.

Group Dynamics Idea One of the best ways to promote unity and community within your group is to worship. Spend time at the beginning of your meetings worshipping together in song and praise. Find someone in your group with the gift of music or simply sing along to songs from your phone or computer.

Discuss

1. Lucifer was **created** by God. He has never been an equal adversary to the Lord, because he is divinely subordinate to God. What are the implications of this hierarchy?
2. A) Lucifer was proud of his God-given qualities. What were they?
B) Consider your attitude toward your own God-given qualities. How much of our success is from our own doing?
3. Read James 4:6. Sometimes we think the devil is against us when it may actually be God resisting our pride. How have you experienced God's intervention in this way? Would you consider sharing?
4. We can rob God of His glory by focusing on ourselves, our qualities or even our own issues. Why do you think it's just as prideful to focus excessively on our own problems and circumstances?
5. Read Psalm 103:1–4. What are all the benefits of worship? How can you integrate worship into your daily life?

Take Home As we conclude, remember the following:

- Lucifer was a created angel and not equal to God.
- Lucifer focused on himself rather than God.
- We are to repent of pride and self-glorification and instead focus on God and give Him glory in all things.
- Pride is defeated by worship that magnifies the Lord.
- Live a life of worship!

Prayer

Heavenly Father, You are beautiful and wonderful beyond words. We give You glory for You are good, loving, and worthy of all praise. We set our hearts before

you in humility asking you to bring to light any pride in us. We ask your forgiveness and declare You as first and foremost in our lives. You are everything to us. Be lifted high, Almighty God! We lift you up and declare You are Lord. In Jesus' name, Amen. (*Suggestion: Close with a song of worship after the prayer.*)

New Leader Tip Your group may include pre-Christians, new believers, and experienced Christians. Keep in mind the importance of covering the basics of your topic and explaining key terms. Not everyone knows the basics or understands the language of the Bible and those that do could always use a good reminder.