

## **NAILS OF THE CROSS: PRIDE**

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Oak Grove M C

### **SPIRITUAL PRIDE IS MORE AN ATTITUDE OF THE HEART, THAN OUTER ACTIONS OR APPEARANCES**

-Remember Nellie Olsen in 'Little House'?

-We often think of pride as having to do with observable behaviors, but in reality the real issue is more an attitude of arrogance or superiority, even in spiritual and religious matters. (Ex: Luke 18:9-14)

-It is easy for us to have over inflated ideas about our spiritual attainment! Galatians 6:1

-Often we can be proud about how humble we are!

### **SPIRITUAL PRIDE IS ANYTHING WE VALUE MORE THAN FOLLOWING JESUS**

-We can easily get focused on every day activities, worries and obligations, that we get side tracked and forget to focus on the important things, like seeking Jesus first. (Matthew 6:33)

-We do not out rightly 'reject' Jesus, but when we are honest, we have to admit that we have gotten too caught up in so many other things, that God is crowded out!

-Often we are involved in many good things, but when we become too busy and focused on what we want to do, we lose our passion for following Christ!

### **SPIRITUAL PRIDE IS ANYTHING WHICH WE ALLOW TO CONTROL OUR LIVES, RATHER THAN GOD**

-This includes anything which comes between God and our commitment to Him!

-In Matthew 19, the rich man had allowed his love of his possessions to become his idol, something he chose to guide his life, rather than God! His wealth was not wrong, only that he had allowed it to become that which controlled his life!

-It is easy to point to others whom we think have given control of their life to bad things. But we need to focus on "what have we allowed to gain control of our lives"? Family? Career? Money? Sports? Addictions? Hobby? Cell phone? Relationship? Position? Even many good things which control us?

-Let's admit it, to some extent we are all control freaks, because we either intentionally or casually choose to give control of our selves to something or someone!!! And we need to stop and examine our own inner 'self', and honestly confess how we have allowed these things to become idols to which we have given allegiance, loyalty, and control of our life.

**IT HAS BEEN OUR SIN OF SPIRITUAL PRIDE WHICH NAILED JESUS TO THE CROSS; HE HAS DIED FOR US, JUST THE SAME AS FOR ALL THE OTHER SINNERS OF THE WORLD!!**