

Overcoming Self-Centeredness

Titus 1:7 - Since an overseer manages God's household, he must be blameless—**not overbearing**, not quick-tempered, not given to drunkenness, not violent, not pursuing dishonest gain.

Defined: having or showing feelings of unwarranted importance out of overbearing pride; showing an offensive attitude of superiority; limited to or caring only about yourself and your own needs

Why is it bad?

Because _____ says it is! (Proverbs 16:17, Mark 7:21-23)

It _____ relationships. (Colossians 3:21; Ephesians 5:25)

It is the opposite of what the Bible teaches. The opposite of arrogance is _____. (1 Corinthians 13:4; Mark 10:43-45)

Why do we do it?

It was _____ during childhood.

Our _____ are not met.

Men – our _____ are easily threatened.

How do we overcome it?

Try to figure out the _____. Then share that with someone you trust.

Practice _____ (Ephesians 4:1-2; Philippians 2:3; 1 Peter 5:5)

_____ - Proverbs 3:34 He mocks proud mockers but shows favor to the humble and oppressed.

Do what Jesus said to do ... _____
_____! (Matthew 22:37-40)

Discussion Questions

1. Without being specific, can you describe men you work with who are self-willed, as described in this chapter? How do these men affect you and others they associate with closely?
2. Have you ever had a problem with being self-willed? How has it affected your relationship with your wife? Your children? Other fellow Christians?
3. If you have ever struggled with this problem, can you describe the main cause? Would you be willing to share it with us?
4. How are you overcoming this problem? What progress have you made?