

LOVE

Theme: Love 6

Discipleship groups purpose: Each member being transformed into the image of the Son.

Key Truth: Love is not arrogant.

Key Scripture: *1 Corinthians 13:4 Love is patient, love is kind and is not jealous; love does not brag and is not arrogant,*

Read: Love is of the Spirit; hence it cannot be arrogant. It's impossible for Godly love to be arrogant, as arrogance is of the flesh.

The oxford dictionary describes arrogance as: having or revealing an exaggerated sense of one's own importance or abilities.

The receiving of God's love will cause us to be confident in Him but not arrogant. Confidence in Christ can be mistaken for arrogance of the flesh, if one lives from the flesh and discerns from the flesh. Humility has its roots in love and love is of the Spirit, while pride or arrogance has its roots in lust and lust is of the flesh.

Love never thinks more highly of itself as arrogance does, even though love is strong and very powerful. Arrogance looks down on others and thinks it is better than others, while love always edifies others and sees everyone as equal. If anyone had the right to be arrogant it was Christ Himself and yet the example He gives us is one of absolute love. He commands us to love one another, not lord over one another.

Luke 22:24-27 And there arose also a dispute among them as to which one of them was regarded to be greatest. And He said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those who have authority over them are called 'Benefactors.' But it is not this way with you, but the one who is the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like the servant. For who is greater, the one who reclines at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one who reclines at the table? But I am among you as the one who serves.

Only love is able to live like this and demonstrate this wisdom. Those who are arrogant or full of pride, will never be able to live this bondservant life out, as it requires them to be constantly putting others needs ahead of their own. Only love can do this, hence it is not arrogant.

Questions:

1. Why isn't love arrogant?
2. Explain the difference between being confident in Christ and arrogance in self?
3. Why can't a person who is arrogant live as a bondservant of Christ?
4. How attractive is a person of love verses a person who is arrogant?