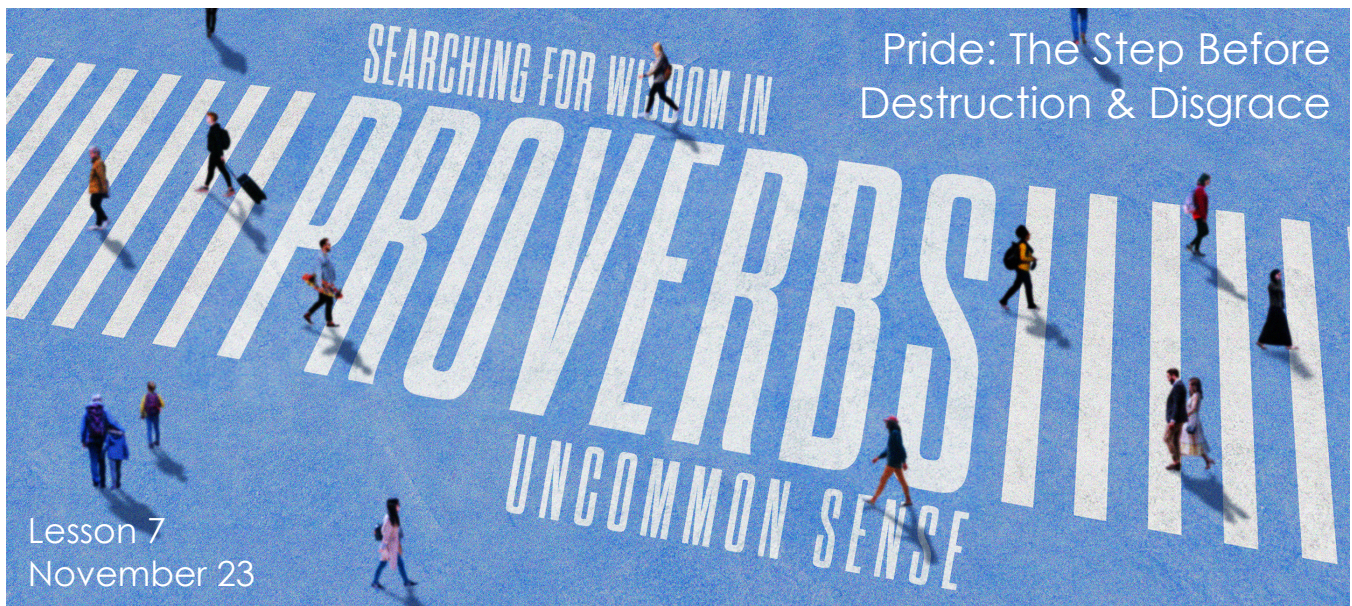




- 🗣️ Let's start by brainstorming together: **what is pride?** What does it look like in a person and why is it so dangerous?

Pride is sneaky. It can creep into our lives and we may not even recognize the effect it's having on our hearts, so we need all the wisdom we can get it. Let's open our ears, guard our hearts, and see what we can learn from the wisdom of *Proverbs*...

When pride comes, then comes _____,
but with the _____ is wisdom. (11:2)

Better to be _____ and have a servant
than to _____ the great man and lack bread. (12:9)

- 🗣️ What do you think Solomon means by describing someone as "playing" the great man? Do people still do that today? If so, what might it look like? Why is it a bad idea?

Pride goes before destruction,
and a haughty spirit before a _____.
It is better to be of a lowly _____ with the poor
than to divide the spoil with the proud. (16:18-19)

- 🗣️ Let's test that thinking. Is it *really* better to be of a lowly spirit with the poor than to divide a bunch of money you've plundered with the proud? If so, in what ways is it better?

Before _____ a man's heart is haughty,
but humility comes before honor. (18:12)

- Why do you think wisdom keeps warning us about pride as being just one or two steps away from destruction and disgrace? Can you think of any examples of men or women from the Old or New Testaments that serve as a case study of the truth behind that warning?

Do not boast about _____,
for you do not know what a day may bring.
Let _____ praise you, and not your own mouth;
a stranger, and not your own lips. (27:1-2)

- How might "boasting" about the future be a symptom of pride? What might "boasting about tomorrow" sound like today? Why does God warn us about it?
- How would you rephrase the wisdom of Proverbs 27:2 in your own words?
- What do you think? Why is pride pretty easy to recognize in others, but sometimes difficult to recognize in ourselves?
- What do we need to take away from this wisdom that will help us "guard our hearts" (4:23) this week?

Proverbs Made Personal

Warning: a message of caution I needed to hear...

Insight: a point I need to remember...

Strength: I was helped and encouraged to walk in wisdom by...

Exalt: God is worthy of honor and praise because...