

## Breaking the Barriers to Abundance *Too Much Me*

*“Pride goeth before a fall,” or so the saying goes. But what does that really mean? Is it wrong to take pride in yourself? Pride in the work you do? To take pride in your city? Nation? Your church? On the other hand, pridefulness is another matter altogether. However, if pride’s the problem, what’s the solution?*

2 Chronicles 26:3–5, 16–21

1. Biblical pride is better understood today as \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Our greatest fear is that we’re not enough ... and the \_\_\_\_\_ that masks our \_\_\_\_\_ won’t let us admit it.
3. Pride keeps us from being honest with \_\_\_\_\_ and from being honest with \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Pride keeps us from depending on \_\_\_\_\_ – and from being \_\_\_\_\_ with God

### ***My Count Me In! Commitment***

Know Thyself ... I’ll Take a Personal Pride Inventory

- List your strengths and your weaknesses
- List your fears (bonus: how you try to cover them up)
- Share your lists with someone you trust
- Choose one thing on your list and ask for help

# Digging Deeper

Week of June 06, 2021

*Barriers to Abundance: Too Much Me*

**Scripture:** 2 Chronicles 26:3–5, 16–21

**Introduction:** Pride and Fear – some theologians have said rather convincingly that these are two root causes of sin. And it turns out that they're inextricably linked. We fear we're not enough or won't have enough and we cover that up with either quiet or loud bravado ... arrogance. We're too prideful to admit when we're wrong, to admit we don't know, to admit we don't match culture's ideal, let alone our own image of ourselves. Add to that the fear that others will find out that we're not "all that" and we have a recipe for personal disaster.

1. Read 2 Chronicles 26:3–15. List some of Uzziah's successes. According to verse 5, why was he so successful?
2. Read 2 Chronicles 26:16–21. Why do you think Uzziah tried to burn incense in the temple?
3. Dr. Bill said that pride (arrogance) is a product of fears. What do you think Uzziah was afraid of?
4. Why do you think God inflicted Uzziah with leprosy? How was this a "fitting" consequence for his pridefulness?
5. Read Galatians 6:35. Why do you think Paul suggests that we should take pride in ourselves?
6. Why do you think so many professionals suffer from "Imposter Syndrome"? What do you think is the solution to their fears?
7. What is your greatest inner personal fear? How is pride getting in the way of your honesty with yourself? With others? With God? (And what are you going to do about it?)