GOSPEL HUMILTY

ALPHA PROJECT 2024

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THE NATURAL CONDITION OF THE HUMAN EGO



THE EGO IS EMPTY

- we try to fill it with things that will give us a sense of worth
 - o success, relationships, money, etc.



"If you try to put anything in the middle of the place that was originally made for God, it is going to be too small. It is going to rattle around in there."

-Tim Keller

THE EGO IS PAINFUL

- it draws attention to itself because it is very easily hurt
- it is bloated and overinflated

THE EGO 15 BUSY

preoccupied with comparing itself with others

"Pride gets no pleasure out of having something, only out of having more of it than the next person. We say that people are proud of being rich, or clever, or good-looking, but they are not. They are proud of being richer, or cleverer, or better-looking than others. If everyone else became equally rich, or clever, or good-looking there would be nothing to be proud about."

-C.S. Lewis

THE EGO IS FRAGILE



"A superiority complex and an inferiority complex are basically the same. They are both results of being overinflated."

-Tim Keller





Shame only occupies spaces where pride existed first.

TO SUMMARIZE...

The natural state of the ego is:

- empty
- painful
- busy
- fragile

OUR CURRENT CULTURAL CONTEXT

- age of individualism
- self-actualization
- "speaking your truth"
- social media

HOW ARE WE TO THINK ABOUT OURSELVES? (LET'S ASK PAUL!)

But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. For I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me.

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Paul says:

- it doesn't matter what other people think of me
- it doesn't matter what I think of myself
- it matters what God thinks of me

GOSPEL HUMILITY:
NOT THINKING MORE OF MYSELF OR LESS OF
MYSELF, BUT THINKING ABOUT MYSELF LESS

HOW DO WE BECOME GOSPEL-HUMBLE?



We become gospel humble by taking ourselves out of the "courtroom" because the trial is over.

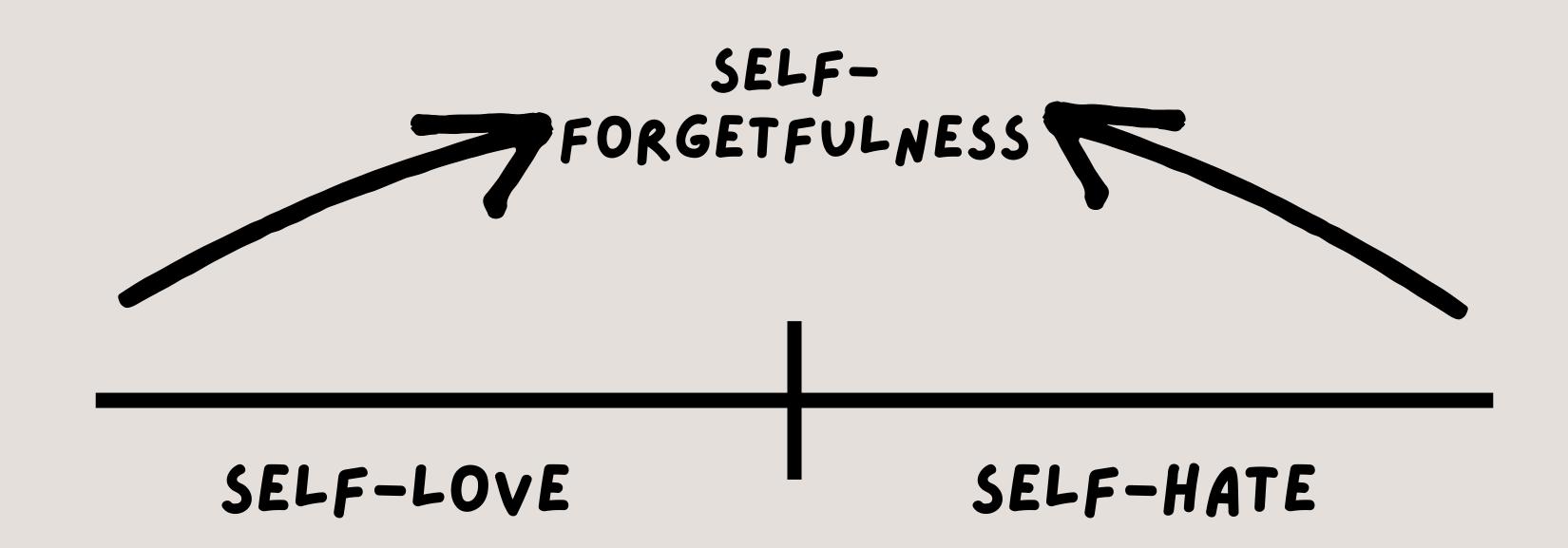
There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

Romans 8:1

WHAT DOES GOSPEL HUMILITY LOOK LIKE?

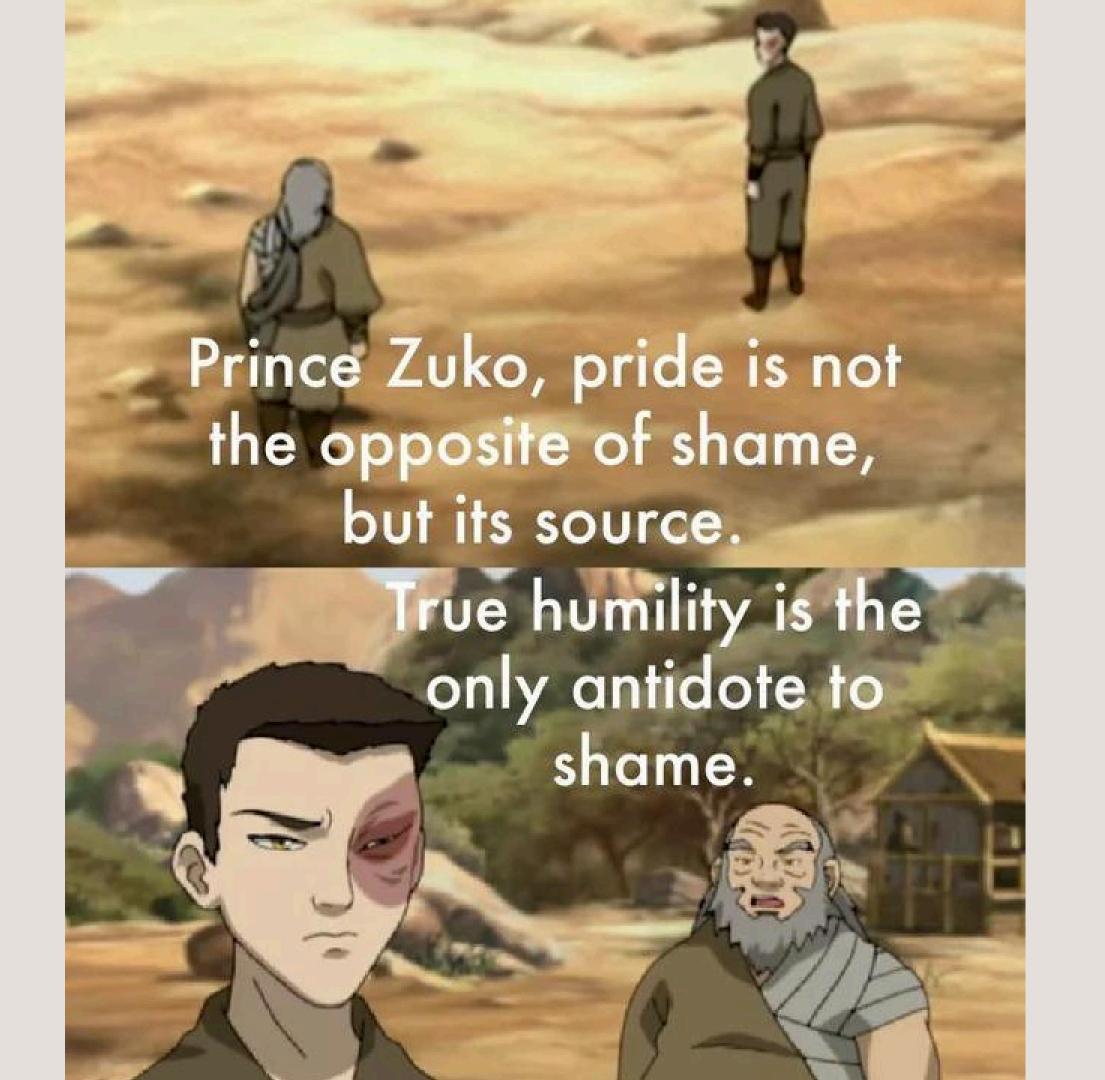
SELF-LOVE

SELF-HATE



WHAT DOES GOSPEL HUMILITY LOOK LIKE?

- invested in others
- not offended or devastated by criticism
- doing things you'd want to do in front of others in private
 - and vice versa



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- 1. What does your ego hot air balloon look like today?
- 2. In what areas do you tend to be more self-hating?
- 3. In what areas do you tend to be more self-loving?
- 4. What is one way you can practice self-forgetfulness?