

## A Marriage Minute™

*A simple help to make your marriage just a little better this week.*

“...LOVE IS NOT PROUD”

-1 Corinthian 13:4



Love is not proud? What does that mean? Often we think of pridefulness, as someone "struttin' their stuff," or thinking of themselves as better than others in very visible ways. Here is a definition of pride that will change your definition of pride forever, if you'll take hold of it. Ready? Here it goes:

*Pride isn't thinking too much of yourself;  
It's thinking of yourself too much!*

That's right. It's possible to be prideful even while you're putting yourself down, saying, "Woe is me. I'm just not worthy, just not good enough." Your focus is still on yourself! You're focused on yourself just as much as the person who thinks too highly of himself or herself. You're still thinking of yourself! You can't be thinking of another person's well being. You're too self-focused. That's pride! Never mind you're unworthiness. God doesn't make junk. You're worthy because he makes you worthy. And guess what? You're no better than the next guy. You have nothing that God didn't give you, and nothing he can't take back in a moment. So you have nothing to focus on about yourself, either thinking too highly of yourself, or thinking too lowly of yourself. Quit thinking about yourself. It's not about you! Love is not proud. It doesn't focus on self. It focuses on God, and the well being of others.

**Question for Dialogue:** "What are some of the ways you think I may be too self-conscious? Does my pridefulness show up when I'm thinking too highly of myself, or when I'm thinking too lowly of myself?"

**Prayer for Both of Us:** "Lord, help us not to think of ourselves too much, either too highly, or too lowly. Help us to be focused on you first, then each other. Forgive our pridefulness. Replace it with humility, focusing on the well being of others first."

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*This Couples Devotional is brought to you by Marriage & Family Savers Ministries. Visit them at [www.marriageandfamily.org](http://www.marriageandfamily.org)*

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