



Life Group
Discussion Guide
April 12, 2015
Diagnosis # 1: Pride



Discussion Questions	Leader Notes
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"And whether you are a CEO or a parent or a pediatrician, you likely struggle with the crushing weight of work, family, exercise, bills, church, school, friends and a barrage of requests, demands, and desires. No doubt, some people are quantitatively less busy than others and some much more so, but that doesn't change the shared experience: most everyone I know feels frazzled and overwhelmed most of the time."

-Kevin DeYoung, Author of *Crazy Busy*

* Helpful Hint: Get people involved in the discussion by asking non-threatening questions that will engage the whole group.

Discussion Kick Off

1. Ask your group to define busy. In their mind what does a busy person look like?
2. Why do you believe most of America is crazy busy, living under a mountain of stress?

Pride is the only disease known to man that makes everyone sick except the person who has it.

-Buddy Robinson

Evaluate It

1. Proverbs 16:18 tells us, "Pride goes before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall." Why is this true?
2. Stuart listed several symptoms of being busy as a result of pride (people-pleasing, performance evaluation, pats-on-the-back, possessions, power, perfectionism, position, prestige, pity and posting in social media). Do any of these describe you? Why or why not?
3. In verses 6-8 in Philippians Chapter 2 Paul provides several examples of Jesus' humility. What are they? How does Jesus' motivation to be busy about the Father's work differ from our motivation for busyness?
4. What is Martha really saying when she asks Jesus, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!" (Hint: Look at all the "P" words in question 2).
5. What qualities do you see in people who, like Mary, "choose what is better"?

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE
 Read Philippians 2:6-8 and Luke 10:38-42. Make it more interesting by reading from the Message version (free on the You Version Bible App).

Make It Personal

1. Is there an area where your busyness is meeting an emotional need for you (Ex: I missed time with my family to work late and finish a project, boss noticed and bragged about me to the other employees and it made me feel good)?
2. Stuart said, "Busyness in the form of hurried and frazzled may be the way of our country, but it is not necessarily the way of the Kingdom of God." What is the "way of the Kingdom of God" when it comes to our schedules and busyness? How can we begin to have a "way of the Kingdom of God" schedule?

At the end of the discussion, take a moment to take prayer requests from the group (if you haven't done so) and pray for your group before you end your time together.

PAID IN FULL
 Jess Moody tells the following story: A guy named Uncle Zeke who lived in Muleshoe, Texas, could not admit when he was wrong, no matter what! One day Uncle Zeke was walking along the street and he happened to shuffle into the blacksmith shop, sawdust all over the floor. What he didn't know was, just before he got there, the blacksmith had been working with an uncooperative horseshoe and beat on it till it was black. It was still hot, but it wouldn't cooperate, so he tossed it over in the sawdust. Zeke walked in, looked down and saw that black horseshoe. He picked it up, not knowing it was still hot. Naturally he dropped it very fast. The old blacksmith looked over his glasses and said, "Kinda hot, ain't it, Zeke?" You know what Zeke said? "Nope, just doesn't take me long to look at a horseshoe."

Starting a Table or Life Group? Take a look at the helpful information below:

Who establishes and makes up a table or life group?

1. Husband & Wife
2. Family
3. 2-5 Guys
4. 2-5 Ladies
5. 2-5 Couples

Where do they meet?

1. Kitchen table
2. Coffee table
3. Cafe table
4. Restaurant table
5. Picnic table
6. Work table
7. Round table

- Meeting (how often, how long): Weekly or bi-weekly (day and time is decided by the group). No more than 2 hours.
- Who should lead a table or life group? Leadership can be shared or the group may choose a leader.
- How long should the group stay together? The group should commit to stay together 6-8 weeks. Groups can renew their commitment to meet together at the end of that time, but initially groups should stay together 6-8 weeks.
- What happens if the group is too big to meet around a table? No table or life group should have more than 15 individuals. If a group grows to have more than 15 participants, there are two options:
 - Multiply into separate tables (groups of less than 15) or
 - Seek to establish a life group (10-20 participants)
- If you have any questions or would like to establish a life group, please contact Jason Fox at 270-765-4994 or jason@fcctown.com.

If you would like to talk with a minister,
call 270-765-4994 to set up an appointment or contact:

Stuart Jones stuart@fcctown.com Senior Minister

Chris Kiger chris@fcctown.com Student Minister

Jason Fox jason@fcctown.com Small Group Minister

Doug Mitchell doug@fcctown.com Connections Minister

Tim Hurd tim@fcctown.com Children's Minister

Shannon Smith Shannon@fcctown.com Assistant Children's Director