

# Pride vs. Humility: A Bible Lesson For Children

Written by Kristin Charles - Published October 4, 2009 from [www.ministry-for-children.com](http://www.ministry-for-children.com) – revised for SJV faith formation families program

This Children's Bible lesson about pride and humility would serve well in Sunday School or Children's Church. It is based on several key Bible verses about being proud and humble. Be sure to modify it for your children's ministry setting.

**Objective:** To define pride and humility and the effects of each. To describe a Biblical individual who was rescued from his pride. To develop students who display humility. This message is geared towards 1<sup>st</sup> thru 7<sup>th</sup> graders.

**Materials:** A pair of boxing gloves or picture of boxing gloves, 2 large sheets of paper, 2 colored markers and 1 black marker, and a Bible.

**Bible Basis:** "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus..." Philippians 2:3-5

**Anticipatory Set:** After prayer, put on your boxing gloves and tell the students that there is going to be a big fight today. (You may even take it a step further and dress up completely in a boxer's attire, to grab their attention.) Pride is going to go up against humility to see who will win the heavyweight champion title. Say: Everyone's got their bets on pride. Pride knows he will win. He's got confidence. He's strong. He's been fighting in the ring like this for years. He's also got a mouth on him. You should hear him destroy Humility. In my opinion, Humility doesn't have a chance.

## Bible Lesson

### Compare and Contrast Pride and Humility

1. Tell the students that you're going to introduce them to each of the opponents. Draw two large stick figures side by side.(you might choose to have an older child or two do the drawings) Say: Meet Proud Dude

- and Humble Dude (or Dudettes.) As you compare and contrast these guys during the lesson, write down brief captions next to the figures.
2. As you draw the eyes on each, explain that Proud Dude only likes to look at himself. Occasionally he sees other people, but when he does, it's only to see their mistakes, weaknesses, and failures. Humble Dude sees God first and then others. He knows that people matter to God, so he treats them with dignity, worth, and respect.
  3. As you draw the mouths, explain that Proud Dude brags about himself constantly. He's always telling us about his good grades, his 4 soccer goals, how he is the most popular student and so very cute. He complains about other people and talks about them behind their backs. Humble Dude is often talking about how awesome God is. He also is known to brag about others. Like, "Did you see her art project? It's amazing! I can't believe that girl can draw like that. What a gift!" Humble Dude uses his words to encourage everyone!
  4. As you draw the ears, talk about how Proud Dude hates to be told what to do. He doesn't like to hear that he is wrong about anything, so he starts fights when he is corrected. Humble Dude realizes that sometimes he makes mistakes, so he hears people out and he apologizes for sin. (Proverbs 13:10)
  5. As you draw the hands, put a boxing glove on Proud Dude's hand. Tell the students that he is always causing fights because he never gets what he wants. Read James 4:1-2. Humble Dude should have a balloon, a flower, or any other treat in his hand. Humble Dude honors other people above himself and is peaceable and considerate. (Titus 3:2) He makes people happy.
  6. As you draw the feet, say that Proud Dude often stomps his. He demands his own way. He thinks he deserves to be served. In contrast, Humble Dude is always walking towards needs. He helps people without being asked.
  7. As you draw little stick figures surrounding each of them (to represent their friends, family, pastors, teachers, etc.), ask the students whether they think that Proud Dude gets along with anyone? What about Humble Dude? What might God think of each of them?
  8. As the students answer, start scribbling out Proud Dude's relationships. You may want to even use black paint and a paintbrush to get rid of these people completely. Tell them that Pride is a source of destruction. It destroys everything – friendships, relationships, even yourself. Pride ends up all alone. In contrast, add more stick figures to Humble Dude's group. Humility builds relationships because people feel loved and valued.
  9. Write, "GOD" one time at the top of the paper. What does God think? In 1 Peter 5:5 it says that, "God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble." It also says that God detests pride. Proud Dude is

foolish. However, in Proverbs 22:4, it says, "Humility and the fear of the Lord bring wealth and honor and life." Humble Dude just keeps getting blessed by God over and over!

10. So, the question is this: Who wins the fight of life in the end? Who would be the heavyweight champion? Have the students give applause to declare the winner. Will it be Proud Dude? (No.) Will it be Humble Dude? (Yes!)
11. Can you name a time when you think you were being humble or proud? If you were being proud what might you have done to be more humble?