

PUTTING ASIDE OUR PRIDE

G. Gordon Liddy used to have a radio talk show. I liked his conservative viewpoints, but his view on who oversaw his personal life stunk. He said, "I have found within myself all I need and all I ever shall need. I am a man of great faith, but my faith is in George Gordon Liddy. I have never failed me." Mr. Liddy needed to humble himself and be under the authority of Jesus.

Mohammed Ali once said, "I am the greatest." The apostle Paul boasted, "I am the least." Can you say you are the greatest or the least? Really you are no different than the person sitting in jail, than the alcoholic or drug abuser, or the homeless person. All are loved by God, but all need to be humbled and under the authority of Jesus.

In the Seaton Hall University Prayer book for Students is this suggested prayer, "Lord, tonight I ask you, once for all, to rid me of my concern over what impression I make on other people. Forgive me for being so preoccupied with what I seem to be, with the effect I produce, with what others think and say of me. Forgive me for wanting to imitate others to the extent that I forget who I am, for envying their talents so much that I neglect to develop my own. Forgive me for the time I spend playing games with my 'personality' and for the time I don't spend in developing character. Now, let me forget the stranger that I was so that I may find myself; for I will never know my home unless I leave it, and I will never find myself if I refuse to lose myself. Lord, let me be open to my brothers, so that through them, you will be able to visit me as your friend. For then I will be the person that your love wants me to be, your son, father, and a brother to my brother."

Can you say to a friend, "I don't deserve God's forgiveness?" "I don't deserve to be in the presence of God?" "I don't deserve anything, but he gives me everything?" You may be too shy to say those things to your friend but try to work up the courage to say this. "I must be pretty important to God." When it comes to Jesus, our entire life must be brought under the authority of Jesus Christ, or He is not our Lord. Jesus will not compromise His position as our commander in chief. Can you put aside what others think or say? Can you put aside your pride and simply love Jesus?

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