<u>Pride</u>

Good pride- Good pride represents a positive notion of self-worth, and its success. Healthy pride is not egocentric. This is why those with good pride can take pride, not just in their own accomplishments, but those of others as well.

They can be proud of their children, their spouse, parents, friends, students, - anyone whom they identify as showing the ability to advance themselves and others, by putting forth their best efforts.

Moreover- for anyone struggling to overcome an impediment, or who made enormous and unusual sacrifices in the all-out effort to do something remarkable should be proud of themselves. Be free to celebrate the human potential to transcend through sheer force of will and determination and ,may I add, PRAYER. People with healthy pride genuinely feel good about themselves. This will explain why such pride is routinely associated with high self-esteem.

<u>Bad Pride:</u> Bad pride links to what's generally deemed antagonistic, anti-social, or rule breaking behaviors. It includes their authoritarian personalities, so commonly found in leadership positions and are essentially bullies. They assume they know more than anyone else, their perspectives are characterized by smug self- righteousness and the belief that only they have the supreme knowledge, the strength, the superiority, to be in control of their lives and others.

All too often, their command leads them to take on a vaingloriously self-enhancing role that further fuels their unruly and insatiable ego. Often, over calculating their abilities and goals, so they can prove they are better than others. They are inflated and easily punctured by criticism — which , in turn , can lead to major company planning errors and overblown defense of anger and rage. *** Professionals regard this as highlighting a narcissistic Personality Disorder***.

The One Another's

- a) Love one another- John 13: 34,35; John 15:12,17; Ist John 3:18
- b) Encourage one another Ist Thess 4:18; Heb 3:13
- c) Spur one another towards love and good deeds- Heb 10:24
- d) Build one another up- Believe and support one another's personal endeavors and dreams -lst Thess 5:11
- e) Edify one another- Rom 14:10
- f) (SERVE) one another Gal 5:13; Ist Pet 4:10
- g) Bear with one another Eph 4:2; Col 3:13
- h) Forgive one another Eph 4:32; Col 3:13
- I) Be kind to one another, especially when you are tired and stressed-Eph 4:32
- j) Be compassionate one to another Ist Pet 3:8
- k) Honor one another Rom 12:10
- L) Live in harmony with one another- Rom 12:16
- k) Be very patient with one another- Eph 4:2
- I) Accept one another and one another's differences. Remember, what may not be important to you will many times be of major importance to someone else.

- j) Clothe yourself with humility towards one another- 1st Pet 5:5
- k) Live in peace with one another- Mark 9:50; Rom 12:18
- m) Pray for and with one another- James 5:16
- n) Offer hospitality to one another- 1st Pet 4:9
- o) Greet one another- Rom 16:16; Ist Pet 5:14
- p) Have fellowship with one another Ist John 1:7
- q) Carry one another's burdens'
- r) Be your spouse's strength, where you know they are weak; never criticizing them and making fun of them. God placed you into their life to be their (BEST) friend, to help them with life's leftover baggage, to help them in their weaknesses, their results of abuse or dysfunction. God placed you with them because with (HIM), He could trust you to handle the job.

Religion versus Relationship

Religion is self-effort to appease and connect with God through commitments, years of service, and financial support. Religion will include being faithful to creeds, traditions and simply personal commitments to people within the church. It is building a so-called divine relationship with a church building which is truly a Holy structure of God. Yet this not necessarily a valid relationship with the God of the Bible. Being religious minded can mean holding on to a life of sin in the name of (God understands me), rather than walking in the holiness of God. Religion can result into hypnotic control.

Religious people, in our current English vernacular, can yes, be styled as those who know God and those who don't

Here's a good way to know if they know God; ask the question if you died tonight where you would go? If they say anything other than <u>they received Jesus Christ</u> <u>as their Lord and Savior;</u> are in great error. They are in for a wide awakening and are being set up for a horrible disappointment.

Relationship with God, Born again, Having Faith Established, Being a Christian are all synonymous. Relationship with God is surrendering your entire life to God's life for you. That will include allowing the Lord to be in complete charge of your entire life. Jesus quotes in John 14:6 - I am the way the truth and the life, no man cometh unto the father but by me. Salvation and a permanent relationship all comes as a result of believing and acting on what God's word says in Rom 10:9,10. If thou shalt confess with thy mouth, the Lord Jesus and believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead thou shall be saved. Therefore just pray this prayer to God.

"Lord, please forgive me of all my sin- I chose today to completely turn my life over to you. I receive your complete forgiveness. I confess with my mouth, right now, that Jesus is Lord over my life. I believe he died on the cross for my sins and I believe with my heart that he was raised on the third day for me to be saved. I receive this wonderful relationship and I thank you Lord God for receiving and saving me".

That's all it takes- Congratulations! –Angels in Heaven are rejoicing because of your salvation. Praise the Lord!

Now tell someone that you received Christ as your Lord and Personal Savior-Find a good Bible believing Church so you can be discipled and learn about your loving God.

Quick Note: Remember however, once you have a relationship with the Almighty God, you and I will gladly commit ourselves to the training, service and admonishment of the Church. Heb 10:25 Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching.

Many feel they are not required to attend church. As you can see, it is commanded by the spirit of God to attend church. This is where God's gifts are set for your personal ministry, training and spiritual care. Eph 4:10-18 ¹⁰ He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.) ¹¹ And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers, ¹⁵ to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, ¹⁶

Eph 4:10-18 ESV

¹ to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,

¹⁴ so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes. ¹⁵ Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶ from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love. ¹⁷ Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. ¹⁸ They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart.