

Pride and its Consequences

John 3:16

Main idea: To educate the congregation about the negative effects of pride and the importance of humility and love in Christian life

Topic: Being a Better Christian

Suggestions for moving forward with your sermon:

1. Expand on the concept of pride: While you have identified pride as the main topic, you can delve deeper into its various manifestations and consequences. Consider exploring passages such as Proverbs 16:18 ("Pride goes before destruction, a haughty spirit before a fall") and James 4:6 ("God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble") to emphasize the negative effects of pride.
2. Discuss humility and its importance: To contrast with pride, focus on the virtue of humility. Explore passages like Philippians 2:3-4 ("Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of the others") to highlight the significance of humility in Christian life.
3. Address the role of repentance: Connect the idea of being a better Christian with the need for repentance. Use passages like Luke 13:3 ("I tell you, no! But unless you repent, you too will all perish") to emphasize the call for repentance as a means to overcome pride and grow in faith.

4. Explore the concept of love: Since you have already referenced John 3:16, consider expanding on the theme of love. Include passages like 1 Corinthians 13:4-7 ("Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud...") to highlight the qualities of love that counteract pride.

5. Incorporate examples from biblical narratives: Instead of sharing personal examples, draw from stories in the Bible that illustrate the consequences of pride and the virtues of humility and love. For instance, explore the story of King Nebuchadnezzar's downfall in Daniel 4 or the humility of Jesus washing His disciples' feet in John 13.

Remember to weave these additional ideas seamlessly into your existing sermon outline, reinforcing the main point of pride being detrimental to Christian growth.