The Church Bully
Week 3

Big Idea: Pride kills ministry, but humility builds it.

Main Scriptures:

3 John 9–10
Mark 10:43–45

1. Pride wants to be **first**

3 John 9–10 9I wrote to the church about this, but Diotrephes, who loves to be the leader, refuses to have anything to do with us. 10When I come, I will report some of the things he is doing and the evil accusations he is making against us. Not only does he refuse to welcome the traveling teachers, he also tells others not to help them. And when they do help, he puts them out of the church.

Diotrephes loved being first more than serving others.

2. Pride makes ministry about **me**

Pride turns ministry into self-promotion instead of serving others.

The goal isn't my credit—it's God's glory.

3. The goal isn't my **credit**; it's God's **glory**.

Celebrate what God is doing through others.

**Innovation Church Value: It's Not a Competition. **

4. Pride turns partners into **competitors**

Instead of celebrating others, pride compares and competes.

5. Pride **divides**; humility **builds**.

Proverbs 26:20 20Fire goes out without wood, and quarrels disappear when gossip stops.

Gossip tears down what humility works to build.

6. Don't be the **wood**. Be the **water**.

Feed unity—not drama.

Before repeating something ask: Is it true? Is it helpful? Is it necessary? Is it mine to tell?

7. Pride asks, "How high can I go?

8. Humility asks, "How low can I **serve**?"

Mark 10:43–45 43But among you it will be different. Whoever wants to be a leader among you must be your servant, 44and whoever wants to be first among you must be the slave of everyone else. 45For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."

- Jesus redefined greatness through service.
- Jesus used His power to **lift** people.
- Jesus washed feet.
- Jesus carried a cross.
- Jesus put others first.

9. Ask yourself:

Am I lifting people **up** pushing people **down**?

Is there any Diotrephes in me?

10. Pride kills **ministry**. Humility builds **ministry**.

Closing Prayer

"Jesus, get the pride out of me. Teach me to serve. Teach me to celebrate others. Teach me to protect unity. Teach me to lift people up. May You always have first place in my life."