

## Proud Spirits and Humble Hearts

Nancy Leigh DeMoss contrasts characteristics of proud, unbroken people whom are resistant to the call of God on their lives with the qualities of broken, humble people who have experienced God's

revival. Read each item on the list as you ask God to reveal which characteristics of a proud spirit He finds in your life. Confess these to Him, and then ask Him to restore the corresponding quality of a broken, humble spirit in you.

### **Proud, Unbroken People**

- ~Focus on the failure of others
- ~Self-righteous; have a critical, fault-finding spirit; look at own life/faults through a telescope but at others with a microscope
- ~Look down on others
- ~Independent/self-sufficient spirit
- ~Maintain control; must be their way
- ~Have to prove that they're right
- ~Claim rights
- ~Demanding Spirit
- ~Desire to be served
- ~Desire for self-advancement
- ~Driven to be recognized/appreciated
- ~Wounded when others are promoted and they are overlooked
- ~"The ministry is privileged to have me!"
- ~Think of what they can do for God
- ~Feel confident in how much they know

### **Broken People**

- ~Overwhelmed with a sense of their own spiritual need
- ~Compassionate; forgiving; look for the best in others
- ~Esteem all others better than self
- ~Dependent spirit; recognize need for others
- ~Surrender control
- ~Willing to yield the right to be right
- ~Yield rights
- ~Giving Spirit
- ~Motivated to serve others
- ~Desire to promote others
- ~Sense of unworthiness; thrilled to be used at all; eager for others to get credit
- ~Rejoice when others are lifted up
- ~"I don't deserve to serve in this ministry!"
- ~Know that they have nothing to offer God
- ~Humbled by how much they have to learn

- ~Self-conscious
- ~Keep people at arms length
- ~Quick to blame others
- ~Unapproachable
- ~Defensive when criticized
- ~Concerned with being “respectable”
- ~Concerned about what others think
- ~Work to maintain image/protect reputation
- ~Find it difficult to share their spiritual needs with others
- ~Want to be sure nobody finds out about their sin
- ~Have a hard time saying, “I was wrong, will you please forgive me?”
- ~When confessing sin, deal in generalities
- ~Concerned about the consequences of sins
- ~Remorseful over their sin—got caught/found out
- ~When there is a misunderstanding or conflict, waits for the others to come and ask for forgiveness
- ~Compare themselves with others and feel deserving of honor
- ~Don’t think they have anything to repent of
- ~Don’t think they need revival (think everybody else does)
- ~Not concerned with self at all
- ~Risk getting close to others, willing to take the risk of loving intimately
- ~Accept personal responsibility
- ~”Easy to be entreated”
- ~Receive criticism with a humble, open heart
- ~Concerned with being real
- ~All that matters is what God knows
- ~Die to own reputation
- ~Willing to be open and transparent with others
- ~Willing to be exposed (once broken, they don’t care who knows--nothing to lose)
- ~Quick to admit failure and seek forgiveness
- ~Deal in specifics
- ~Grieved over the cause/root of their sin
- ~Repentant over sin (forsake it)
- ~Take the initiative to be reconciled; see if they can get to the cross first
- ~Compare themselves to the holiness of God and feel desperate need for mercy
- ~Continual heart attitude of repentance
- ~Continually sense their need for a fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit