

Pride: a constant struggle

Youth / Virtues

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With humility we must recognize ourselves small and limited, unworthy and sinners. Wanting to do well, wanting infinite happiness, longing for immortality, we find our condition of misery. It's really a paradox. He explains very well the Apostle Paul in his letter to the Romans: "... I just don't understand my behavior, then do not do what I want, but I do what I hate" (Rom 7: 15).

Faced with this reality touches us, we must accept the real condition of undeserving sinners. "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and purify us and all unrighteousness" (1 John 1: 8-9). Only then we become able to overcome sin. "My grace is sufficient, since the strength is revealed in weakness. Gladly therefore I will be proud of my infirmities, that rest upon me the power of Christ. And I am pleased to stand for Christ weaknesses, insults, needs, persecutions and anxieties, because when I am weak, then is when I am strong" (2 Cor 12: 9-10).

Therefore, we cannot be self-sufficient. Nor believe we can solve all problems. If we are alone, we are not able to overcome our physical limitations, let alone our moral weakness. "Unhappy me! Who will deliver me from this body that brings me death? I'll have to thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord! "(Rom 7: 24-25). If we believe we can solve all our own strength, then help others and the help of God does not "take place". They have no reason for being in our lives.

Self-sufficiency is manifested in each of different ways, but there is one common denominator: the belief that you have all managed and controlled; It's above others. It's a totally immature approach someone who doesn't want to recognize its limitations. There is an idea of ??believing "immaculate" or "perfect". Nothing further from reality. Already said Shakespeare in Hamlet: "there are more things in heaven and earth, Horatio, than are dreamt of in your philosophy."

Believe we're perfect, or better than others-which is a sure sign of self-confidence-is to look only as "too good". That pride does not allow us to accept and recognize the problems, defects or sins we can have. We all know that is impossible to be perfect, but the superb thinks it is, or at least is very close to it.

The response to pride is the way of humility. Start by accepting who we really are. Having a problem does not make us more or less. Our value is not to have extraordinary qualities, or have fewer problems than others. Humility leads us to recognize where our value is. "God said:" Let us make man in our image, after our likeness, and master (...) "(Gen 1, 26) "Indeed, all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. (...) You received a spirit of adoption, whereby we cry: Abba, Father! The Spirit joins with our spirit to bear witness that we are children of God (...) "(Rom 8: 14-17).

There is an irony in all this. The proud he has the need to demonstrate not only to others but even himself, that he is a superior, whom you will have to worship, for praise and applause worthy of thought. They don't really need to. Actually, everyone is very valuable and very important - as seen in the passage mentioned above. But the only way how we can find that out is with God. We need God. The more self-sufficient and proud we are, the more we turn away from God. And the farther away from God we are, the more we lose sight of what is really important and valuable we are. We must recognize our divine origin. We are the fruit of love of God. We are not only creatures and children of God in Christ, but we know that Christ died on the cross for us. That is the greatest demonstration of the value we have. We are worth the price of the blood of God. We do not owe it to ourselves. Our whole life is in God's hands. He is the one who sustains us in this life. We live thanks to Him. This should lead us to think that the good we have comes from love and divine goodness.

Therefore, let us strive with God's grace, to fight our pride and humbly live the truth. That is the only way that allows us to discover the true value and importance we have for God and for others.