WOODVALE
PENTECOSTAL CHURCH

Connect Group Sermon Aligned Discussion Guide.

HELP! Is anyone using these Discussion Guides?
Click HERE to let us know.

Series Title: The Danger of Stealing God's Glory
Key Scripture: Acts 12:20-24
Recorded Sermon: www.woodvale.ca/pastservices/v/the-danger-of-stealing-gods-glory
Date + Speaker: October 4, 2026

Icebreaker question:
Have you ever won an award? Was it warranted? How did you feel?

Big Idea:
Flattery and arrogance are cheap substitutes for positive affirmation and an identity securely and humbly rooted in Jesus. Pride is at the root of 'stolen' glory.

Discussion questions:

1. Read Acts 12:1-19 What do you learn about Herod?
2. Read Acts 12:20-24 What immediately stands out to you? [themes, words, phrases] Why?
3. How can power and prestige ensnare us? Have you ever been tempted? Would you be comfortable briefly sharing the story?
4. In your opinion, what was at the 'root' of the tragedy? Do you agree that pride was the root? What does pride look like in 'real life'?
5. In your opinion, what is the relationship between the emotion of anger and the character trait of pride?
6. How can one differentiate between healthy self esteem and arrogance?
7. What distinguishes flattery from legitimate praise or affirmation? Would you share an example?
8. What is the difference between receiving legitimate thanks and praise and 'stealing' what belongs to the Lord?
9. How can we guard ourselves from falling into either the snare of pride or flattery?

Diving Deeper:
Read John 17:1-5. Consider the glory of God. How is God through/in Christ? What is Jesus' prayer for you? Meditate on this and spend time worshipping God - praising Him and expressing your gratitude.

Additional Resources:
The Big Idea summarizes the main take away but is NOT meant to limit Spirit led discussion.
The discussion questions are typically designed to move from Observation to Interpretation to Application.

1. Herod the Great (Matthew 2)--→Herod Antipas (ordered the execution of John the Baptist)--→Herod Agrippa ('this' Herod had a larger territory and more fame than his predecessors)

7. and 8. Seem similar BUT in question 5 the emphasis is on those <u>giving</u> the 'false praise' and in question 6 the emphasis is on the one <u>receiving</u> the praise

 Additional resources appealing to those groups with a more studious or academic bent:
<u>The Awe of God</u> by John Bevere