



SHADOW SIDE

GROUP GUIDE

SUCCESS CAN BE DANGEROUS

START UP

Sometimes what we want most can wind up hurting us if we're not careful. And other times, what we want least can actually be beneficial. This weekend, we talked about success, which is very good, but it has a shadow side to it and can potentially be very dangerous.

- One thing that has a shadow side is Halloween candy—it tastes great but comes at a cost. But for a moment, ignore the shadow side. What Halloween candy is your go-to favorite? Make a case for why it's the best.
- Success isn't bad; it can be very good! And being humble doesn't mean we don't acknowledge places where we enjoy success. Share one place you've experienced success in your life.

DISCUSS TOGETHER

Read **2 Chronicles 26:3-15**.

- What do you think it was like for a young Uzziah to become king at 16? If you were king or queen at 16, what emotions would you have felt?
- In what ways did Uzziah experience success and favor from God? What impresses you the most?
- Jeff said, "When God gives favor and success, that's a wonderful gift. But He gives it to us so that we can use it for His purposes." Where has God's favor shown up in your life? How is that favor a stewardship for you to use for His purposes?

Finish the story by reading **2 Chronicles 26:16-21**.

- What was problematic about Uzziah's actions? How does his pride show up in big ways in this passage?
- Have you seen how someone's pride lead to their downfall? How?
- How are you at receiving feedback and correction? Can you think of a recent time where someone gave you feedback that helped you see a blind spot?
- What is the difference between healthy self-esteem and pride?
- Jeff shared how pride is incredibly difficult to see in our own life. How do you know if you are being prideful? What are some of the indicators?
- Jeff mentioned four indicators of pride: When your ego inflates and your prayers shrink; when you think the rules don't apply to you; when you repel correction and confrontation; and when you insist on premium treatment but don't treat others that way. Which of these have you seen pop up in your life recently? Is there anything you need to pay attention to?
- In what area of life are you most in danger of falling victim to pride? What are some guardrails you can put in place? What helps keep you grounded?

LIVE BIG

Thank God for any favor He has shown in your life and in the life of your group. Take a moment to thank God for the cross, where we're all in the same boat and we're all reminded to be humble before a holy and loving God.