



Love is not arrogant

1 Corinthians 13:4

Breaking the Ice:

Have you ever heard someone inflate their resume? Can you think of some possibly humorous examples?

For Reflection:

Love realizes that whatever it has is the gift of God, and that there is nothing in man of which to be proud. Even gifts of the Holy Spirit are sovereignly bestowed by God and should not make a person proud or haughty, no matter how spectacular the gift might be – Weirsbe

Definition: **boast** (*covered in intro video*)

φυσιόω*phusiōō*; physioo

to breathe, blow, inflate. To inflate, blow or puff up. In the NT spoken only figuratively of pride or self-conceit (1 Cor. 4:6, 18, 19; 5:2; 8:1; 13:4; Col. 2:18).¹

ar-ro-gant *ar-ro-gant*/

adjective

having or revealing an exaggerated sense of one's own importance or abilities.

"he's arrogant and opinionated"

synonyms: haughty, conceited, self-important, egotistic, full of oneself, superior

¹Zodhiates, S. (2000). *The complete word study dictionary: New Testament* (electronic ed.). Chattanooga, TN: AMG Publishers.

Read: [Luke 17:7-10](#)

Why should we view ourselves at best as unprofitable servants? What is the opposite of being arrogant (puffed up)?

Serving without the thought or intent of recognition would seem to be the proper application of avoiding arrogance in love. We do not have to gain anything from serving, we do not need to be the hero of every story. We simply lovingly serve even if no one notices. We do this knowing that such service pleases God and we can find satisfaction in being humble servants for Him. – JPW

Can you think of examples of humble service you have observed? Can you think of some of the many ways God serves us even though undeserved and often unrecognized? ([See: Luke 17:11-19](#))

In what ways can inflating ourselves remove space for loving others? How does doing so steal some glory from God as well?

Response:

Observe behavior and examine your heart and see if there are moments where you want to be recognized for your actions. If you discover such, pray that God will allow you to lovingly serve without recognition.

Bottom Line:

God wants you to serve others while staying in the background.