

Narcissism

Narcissistic personality disorder is a mental condition in which people have an inflated sense of their own importance, a deep need for excessive attention and admiration, troubled relationships, and a lack of empathy for others.

Symptoms

- Exaggerated sense of self-importance
- Inability to bond – lack of deep relationships
- Authority issues and a spirit of independence or rebellion
- Preoccupied with fantasies about success, power, brilliance, beauty, or perfect mate
- Exaggerate achievements and talents
- Monopolize conversations and look down on people they perceive as inferior
- Take advantage of others to get what they want
- Inability to recognize the needs and feelings of others
- Expect special favors and unquestioning compliance from others
- Driven and determined in life, may be successful by worldly standards
- Arrogant, haughty, conceited, boastful, and pretentious
- Envious of others and believe that others envy them
- Experience major problems dealing with stress, anger, and change
- Depression or moodiness because they fall short of perfection
- Secret feelings of insecurity, shame, vulnerability, and humiliation
- Stunted emotional maturity

Challenges

- Self-referential, unable to accept their role in conflict or trauma
- Anger or control response when feeling threatened
- They quickly justify themselves and blame others
- Skewed standard for comparisons and judgments
- False sense of identity
- They must come to “the end of themselves” to accept help

Prayer Strategy

- Pray for a starting point (conflict, pain, or trauma)
- Ask God to reveal the root cause or underlying condition
 - Failure to bond: rejection, abandonment, betrayal
 - Spirit(s) of rebellion or independence
 - Orphan mentality: I must provide and protect myself
- Extend forgiveness toward offenders
- Receive forgiveness
- Accept a new identity

Ask God to reveal truth into the narcissist’s heart about how He sees him or her. God will fill the void with assurances of unconditional love and acceptance. Forgiveness is the only path to being worthy in God’s sight, and He promises to grant that forgiveness.