### 5 Ways to Never Be a

### Narcissistic Pastor



#### Introduction

"The Mayo Clinic summary [of] narcissistic personality disorder [NPD] . . . 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. But behind this mask of extreme confidence lies a fragile self-esteem that's vulnerable to the slightest criticism. ...

"Summarize in points: a narcissist has...

- "An inflated sense of importance
- "A need for admiration
- "Signs of troubled relationships
- "Lack of empathy for others
- "Vulnerable to the slightest criticism."

(McKnight, Scott. "Help!, My Pastor is a Narcissist: Eight strategies for dealing with narcissistic pastors." Jesus Creed, a blog by Scot McKnight, Chrsitianity Today, ChristianityToday.com, 10 Aug. 2020, https://www.christianitytoday.com/scot-mcknight/2020/august/help-my-pastor-is-narcissist.html. Accessed 7 Aug. 2021.)

#### Introduction

The Type of Preacher that Jesus wants you to be is clearly stated in his description of John the Baptist, and is recorded in Matthew 11:9-14.

### "But what went ye out for to see? A prophet? yea, I say unto you, and more than a prophet."

(Matthew 11:9)

# I. A Narcissist cannot see past himself to being a messenger.

("An inflated sense of importance")

### "For this is he, of whom it is written, Behold, I send my messenger before thy face, which shall prepare thy way before thee."

#### (Matthew 11:10)

## II. A Narcissist cannot see past himself to being the least.

("A need for admiration")

"Verily I say unto you, Among them that are born of women there hath not risen a greater than John the Baptist: notwithstanding he that is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

(Matthew 10:11)

#### III. A Narcissist pastor cannot see past himself to being surrendered.

("Signs of troubled relationships")

"And from the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force."

(Matthew 10:12)

## IV. A Narcissist cannot see past himself to being submitted.

("Lack of empathy for others")

#### "For all the prophets and the law prophesied until John."

#### (Matthew 10:13)

## V. A Narcissist cannot see past himself to being *God's* man or woman.

("Vulnerable to the slightest criticism")

#### "And if ye will receive it, this is Elias, which was for to come."

(Matthew 11:14)

#### Conclusion

#### The Type of Preacher that Jesus wants you to be is the opposite of a Narcissist!

"In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea, and saying, 'Repent ye: for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Matthew 3:1-2)

- 1) A Narcissist cannot see past himself to being a messenger. (Instead of having "an inflated sense of importance" - be a messenger for Jesus!)
- 2) A Narcissist cannot see past himself to being the least. (Instead of having "a need for admiration" - be the least for Jesus!)
- 3) A Narcissist pastor cannot see past himself to being surrendered. (Instead of having "signs of troubled relationships" - be surrendered to Jesus!)
- 4) A Narcissist cannot see past himself to being submitted. (Instead of having a "lack of empathy for others" - be submitted to Jesus & therefore to his sheep!)
- 5) A Narcissist cannot see past himself to being God's man or woman. (Instead of being "vulnerable to the slightest criticism" - be God's man (or woman) for Jesus!)

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