

Refresh

“Big Shot”

How Can I Tell If I Am Becoming Arrogantly Self-Sufficient?

1. By whether or not I’m routinely depending on my abilities alone & leaving God out of my decision-making process.

- **James 4:13-16:** “Now listen, you who say, ‘Today or tomorrow we will go to this or that city, spend a year there, carry on business and make money.’¹⁴ Why, you do not even know what will happen tomorrow. What is your life? You are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.¹⁵ Instead, you ought to say, ‘If it is the Lord’s will, we will live and do this or that.’¹⁶ As it is, you boast and brag. All such boasting is evil.”

Rom. 12:2: “Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.”

Prov. 3:5-6: “Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding;⁶ in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight.”

2. By whether or not I’m foolishly ignoring God’s will when I clearly understand what it is that He would have me to do.

- **James 4:17:** “Anyone, then, who knows the good he ought to do and doesn’t do it, sins.”

Eph. 5:15-18: “Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise,¹⁶ making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil.¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is.¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.”

1 Thess. 4:3; 5:16-18: “It is God’s will that you should be sanctified: that you should avoid sexual immorality.¹⁶ Be joyful always;¹⁷ pray continually;¹⁸ give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”