

Leaders Outline

Faith: You and Yourself

I. The concept of self is being covered by various sources today.

- A. Books & magazines.
- B. College & workshop courses
- C. Newspaper articles.
- D. Television programs & movies.
- E. On-the-job training.

II The Christian concept of self must be derived first and foremost from the Bible, supplemented only by those sources which do no harm to Biblical teachings.

Faith: You & Yourself

1. Give scriptures that describe God's attitude toward you.
2. What is your attitude toward yourself?
3. Does that attitude need to change? If so, what scriptures will help you make that change?
4. What does Psalm 139:1-14 have to do with your self-image?
5. What does Psalm 37 have to do with your self-image?
6. What role should humility have in our self-image, according to Philippians 2:1-4 and Colossians 3:12-17?

1. Scriptures that describe God's attitude toward me:

John 3:16 ✓ Psalm 86:15
II Corinthians 5:21 ✓ Psalm 37:24
Romans 5:8 ✓ Jeremiah 31:3
I Corinthians 2:9 ✓ Psalm 103:13
I Corinthians 10:13 ✓ I John 4:19
Romans 8:32, 37-39 ✓ Revelation 3:19
Ephesians 2:4-7 ✓ II Peter 3:9
I John 3:1a ✓ I Timothy 2:4
John 17:23-26 ✓ Job 36:5
II Thessalonians 2:16 ✓ Rev. 7:9
I John 4:9-10 ✓

2. My attitude toward myself:

Mixed feelings as in Romans 7:15-25

3. This attitude should not really change.

We should always strive for more of what we should be doing for the Lord and less of what we desire for ourselves. Philippians 3:14
Should be our guide, our goal.

4. We should keep our self-image on proper perspective relative to the Lord. The Lord knows our good points, our bad points, and all our faults, and all we say. We must not think too highly of ourselves; yet we can be joyful in that we are "fearfully and wonderfully made."
5. Our self-image should be guided constantly by our need to "trust in the Lord" and our need to "do good."
(v. 3) Our "delight" must not be in self but in the Lord. (v. 4) If we commit our ways unto the Lord, we will have the proper self-image. (v. 5)
Our self-image must never be a result of the material possessions of ours, but should be based upon the righteousness we obtain from the Lord. Our self-image should focus on heaven, not earthly matters.

6. In Philippians 2:1-4 we learn that we must be humble so that our self-image never places our ego before the welfare of other believers in our fellowship - the other believers must come first - that should be a part of our self-image (to serve).

Colossians 3:12-17 is the guideline for a godly self-image. Once we have these qualities in our lives we will not have to worry about our self-image.