

Bring - Teaching stand - stool

~~Books~~ - board stand

Roadblocks-to-Maturity, Bible dictionary

① JV Before we can practice Biblical love we need to identify the roadblocks we have developed which will prevent us from practicing love effectively. Wrong attitudes need to be removed + replaced by Biblical attitudes

e.g. Bad self image - how we view ourselves

Let's be clear about this -

The Bible assumes that we love ourselves

Eph. 5 - "no one ever hated himself", love one another as we love self

So we're not talking about learning to love ourselves - we're talking about learning to accept certain things about ourselves we don't like

I Self image is closely tied to

- ① Physical appearance - looking in the mirror are there things you'd like to change - height, shape of features + face, hair, body shape
- ② Parents - embarrassed by them, their input was neg. - put down
- ③ Talents - not the ones which are currently popular, or spiritual gifts
- ④ Environmental factors - poor family, uneducated no status in community

These ④ things closely related to self image - yet self image is not determined by these things but by whose evaluation of these things we respect + seek their acceptance + approval

Pathways to Maturity

love

road blocks
obstacles
love

love

love

accept
love

love
love

love

love
love

love

love

love
love

love

love
love

② These things need not dictate your evaluation of we take God's evaluation + understand the purpose all these things have in our lives, then we will be able to build a proper self-image

- a healthy acceptance of how we are
- a proper anticipation of how we can be used

① It's because we have accepted other peoples' evaluation of our figure, hair, looks, backgrounds, talents - their exaggerated, distorted view ~~has~~ and acceptance based on that false view produces a neg. self-image because no one ~~we~~ can measure up to the world's so-called perfection

② Often our perception of how these people evaluate us is way off - they may not be evaluating you negatively - but you are sure they are so you develop a neg. self-image based on your false perception of their view

③ With a neg. self-image you will have

- inferiority complex of others

- insecurity, ~~etc~~

- sense of rejection by others

- fatalism about what life will hold for you

- strong tendency to live in a self-fulfilling

prophecy - i.e. if you view yourselves as losers ~~you will~~ make sure that neg. outlook controls your lives → convince others

④ Even if you have a pos. self-image it's probably based on world's evaluation - that's dangerous.

Because - you will change + lose these looks

man's evaluation basis will change

you'll be out of sync with world system then what will you do

tan

abor

realis

optative

adjo

verb

①

verb

verb

verb

verb

verb

②

tan

verb

verb

③

verb

verb

④

verb

verb

verb

verb

verb

verb

verb

verb

⑤

verb

1992

③ "Mid-life Crisis" occurs because especially man's self-image was built on human evaluation of looking good, muscular, having physical prowess, being young & virile. The crisis things they based their life on they no longer measure up to. e.g. they panic & get a grip & change

N.B. This is everyone's problem not only men women

Consequences of neg. self-image

- ① Inability to trust God even a deep seated
- ② suspicion or resentment, bitterness towards God
- ③ Doubting God's love when looking in a mirror
- ④ Resisting & resenting authority figures - parents, bosses
- ⑤ As thru life feeling cheated - God owes me something - a floating bitterness towards authority

⑤ Devastating hindrance towards developing love relationships because of self-focus neg.

- a → Focus on things about ourselves we don't like
- b → relate to people in a way to get their approval rather than give to meet their needs

e.g. boasting constantly - get approval or always talking knowing everybody's never listening
denigrate ourselves to get sympathy 'pushy'

NB This never works only drives people away thus fulfilling our neg. view of self

Result as long as we are living to please each other
I we can't tap into God's view of us + relationships

II Result Man's evaluation of us leads us to materialism

- spend all kinds of time & money on clothes, make-up, body all external & expensive.
- If they clubs going to bars immoral lifestyle