

Bring - Teaching stand - stool
- 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

- 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 people's 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 ~~and~~ 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 acceptance
negotiation request

ratio
b

ratio ratio

①

ratio

ratio

ratio ratio

ratio ratio

ratio ratio

tan

ratio

②

③

ratio

ratio

ratio

ratio

ratio

ratio

ratio

ratio

ratio ratio

④

1990

③ "Mid-life Crisis" occurs because especially man's self-image was built on human evaluation of looking good, brave, 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 uspicion 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

False Goals rather than give to meet their needs
e.g. boasting constantly - get approval or always talking
denigrate ourselves to get sympathy *knowing everything & never listening*
'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