

Finding Self-Worth

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I. Introduction

A. 1 Corinthians 4:3-5 (NLT)

³As for me, it matters very little how I might be evaluated by you or by any human authority. I don't even trust my own judgment on this point. ⁴My conscience is clear, but that doesn't prove I'm right. It is the Lord himself who will examine me and decide. ⁵So don't make judgments about anyone ahead of time—before the Lord returns. For he will bring our darkest secrets to light and will reveal our private motives. Then God will give to each one whatever praise is due.

B. There are two primary ways that people try to find self-worth today.

1. The first way that we find self-worth is by looking to what other people say about us. We look outward.

a. Genesis 24:24 (NLT)

"I am the daughter of Bethuel," she replied. "My grandparents are Nahor and Milcah."

b. John 10:20 (NASB)

Many of them were saying, "He has a demon and is insane. Why do you listen to Him?"

2. The second way we try to find self-worth is the post-modern approach. This says the way to discover self-worth is by what we say about us. We look inward.

3. As followers of Jesus, we gain our self-worth by what God says about us. We look upward.

II. What Does God Say About Us in His Word?

A. I am made in the image of God.

1. Genesis 1:26-27 (NLT)

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth, and the small animals that scurry along the ground." ²⁷So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

2. One of the things that gives us, as human beings, unique worth is that we were created for a relationship with God.

B. The second thing that God says is, I am a sinner.

1. Mark 7:21-23 (NIV)

²¹For it is from within, out of a person's heart, that evil thoughts come—sexual immorality, theft, murder, ²²adultery, greed, malice, deceit, lewdness, envy, slander, arrogance and folly. ²³All these evils come from inside and defile a person."

C. Through faith in Jesus Christ, I am a child of God.

I. Luke 3:21-22 (NASB)

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, Jesus was also baptized, and while He was praying, heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came out of heaven, "You are My beloved Son, in You I am well-pleased."

D. I am destined for greatness.

I. John 1:42 (NASB)

He brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, "You are Simon the son of John; you shall be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

III. Conclusion

A. When Jesus looks at us, He doesn't see us as we are. He sees what we could become if we let Him manage our lives.