

SOLID

DEVELOPING A GODLY SELF-IMAGE

EXODUS 3:1-15; 4:1-17

Why do you think so many people struggle with a poor self-image?

Moses, like many today, felt insignificant and inadequate. He had been raised in the courts of the king of Egypt in great wealth and with the best of education and training. But witnessing an act of unrighteousness against a fellow Jew, Moses took matters into his own hands and killed a man. As a result he was forced to flee Midian, where he spent the next forty years herding sheep. At the beginning of Exodus 3 he is eighty years old and has accomplished very little in his life.

Read Exodus 3:1-15 and 4:1-17

1. In 3:4 God calls Moses by name. What does this tell Moses about God?
2. Why does God send Moses to Pharaoh (3:7-10)?
3. In 3:11-15 Moses raises two objections against going to Pharaoh. What do these objections reveal about Moses' view of himself and God?
4. In what situations do you feel inadequate to do what God commands or desires?
5. How can God's reply to Moses encourage you (3:12, 14-15)?
6. Moses gives his third objection in 4:1. How does God reassure him 4:2-9?

7. What are some of the resources God has given you to accomplish His will in a difficult or fearful area?

8. In 4:10 Moses claims that he lacks the gifts to serve God effectively. How does his view of himself differ from God's perspective (4:11-12)?

9. When is it legitimate to admit that we are unqualified for an area of service, and when is it merely a faithless excuse?

10. In what way can a poor self-image become sin (4:13-17)?

11. In what areas do you allow your self-image to be determined by your emotions or by other people rather than by God and His Word?

12. According to this passage, how should our self-image be affected by our image of God?

The End Bit!

In this passage, God does not seek to correct Moses' low self-image by giving Moses a proper image of himself, but rather by giving him a proper image of God.

If God asks us to do something – no matter if we don't think we're up to the task, He will help us get the job done!

We must fix our eyes firmly on Jesus and study His Word, seeking His guidance for our lives so that we can become more like Him each and every day and be the people He wants us to be.

Verses to Remember:

'But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.'

2 Corinthians 12:9-10