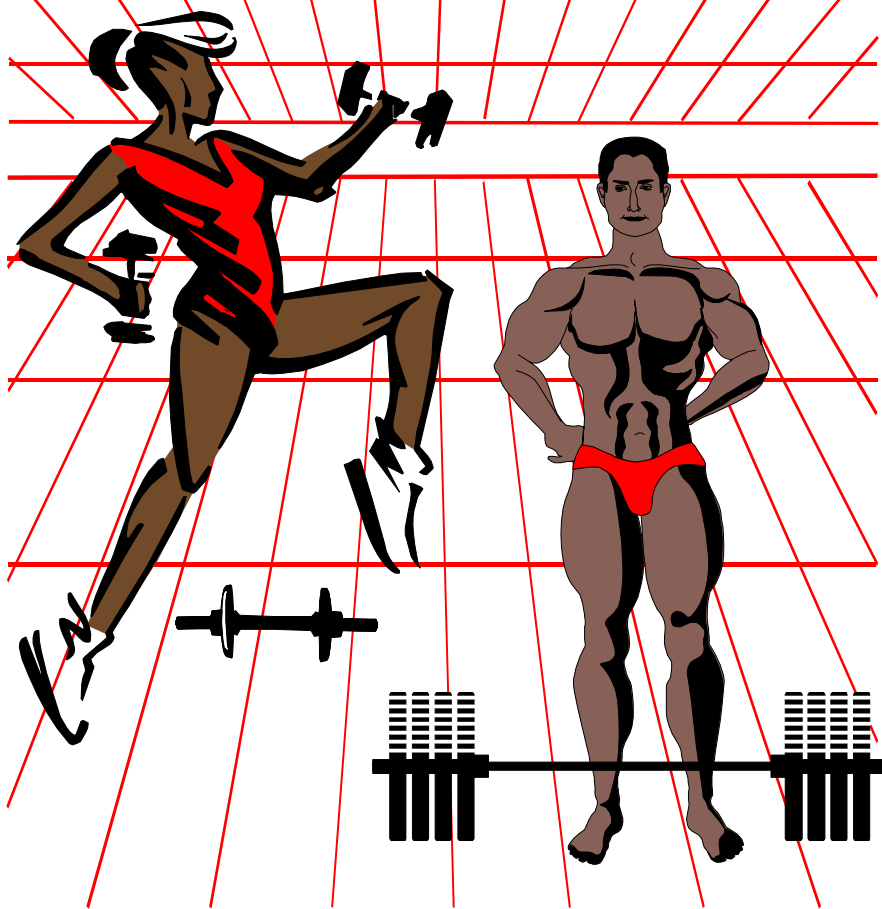


SELF ESTEEM



INTRODUCTION:

WHAT IS SELF-ESTEEM?

The term "Self-Esteem" has changed in its meaning through the introduction of Man's Psychology. It used to have a negative meaning, but now it has evolved into a positive meaning to those who are in the world.

The Old Dictionary says it is : Esteem of oneself; the act of thinking favorably of oneself; vanity.

The New Dictionary says it is: Self respect.

Although it is a subtle difference, we are now led to believe that we need to respect ourselves to the point of pride and vanity.

The Bible doesn't mention the term "Self-Esteem", but has much to say about not 'living' for ourselves or 'loving' ourselves.

COMMENTARY:

As Christians, we no longer live for ourselves, but for Jesus Christ.

Gal 2:20

20 **I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God,** who loved me, and gave himself for me.

2 Cor 5:15

15 And that **he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him** which died for them, and rose again.

If we are truly living for the Lord, we become less interested in ourselves.

John 5:30 (Jesus said)

30 **I can of mine own self do nothing:**...because **I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.**

We now live through the guidance of God The Holy Spirit, which the natural man (including psychologists) cannot understand.

1 Cor 2:14

14 **But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God:** for they are foolishness unto him: **neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.**

1 Cor 2:16

16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? **But we have the mind of Christ.**

Our "Self-Esteem" as Christians.

1 Cor 12:27

27 **Now ye are the body of Christ,** and members in particular.

1 Cor 12:18

18 **But now hath God set the members every one of them in the body, as it hath pleased him.**

1 Cor 12:21

21 And **the eye cannot say unto the hand, I have no need of thee: nor again the head to the feet, I have no need of you.**

2 Cor 10:12

12 **For we dare not** make ourselves of the number, or **compare ourselves with some that commend themselves:** but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise.

2 Cor 10:17

17 **But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.**

2 Cor 10:18

18 **For not he that commendeth himself is approved, but whom the Lord commendeth.**

What about the problem of low "Self-Esteem"?

Eph 5:29

29 **For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it,** even as the Lord the church:

God's Love is the 'Fruit of the Spirit', and it doesn't reflect "Self-Esteem". (Gal 5:22)

1 Cor 13:4-5

4 **Charity (Love) suffereth long, and is kind; charity (Love) envieth not; charity (Love) vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up,**

5 **Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil;**

God's "Self-Esteem" in marriage.

Eph 5:28

28 **So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.**

As Christians, we are to "Esteem" others better than ourselves!

Phil 2:3

3 Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; **but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.**

Rom 12:16

16 **Be of the same mind one toward another.** Mind not high things, but condescend to men of low estate. **Be not wise in your own conceits.**

James 2:8

8 If ye fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, **Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself**, ye do well:

The following is some 'Sound Doctrine' for Christians about "Self-Esteem".

Prov 3:7

7 **Be not wise in thine own eyes:...**

Prov 3:34

34 ...but **he giveth grace unto the lowly.**

Prov 11:2

2 **When pride cometh, then cometh shame:** but with the lowly is wisdom.

Prov 14:14

14 **The backslider in heart shall be filled with his own ways:...**

Prov 21:4

4 **An high look, and a proud heart,** and the plowing of the wicked, **is sin.**

Prov 26:12

12 Seest thou **a man wise in his own conceit?** there is more hope of a fool than of him.

Prov 27:2

2 **Let another man praise thee, and not thine own mouth;** a stranger, and not thine own lips.

Prov 28:11

11 **The rich man is wise in his own conceit:...**

There are False Teachers among us that are teaching about "Self-Esteem" the same as in the world.

2 Pet 2:1

1 ...even as **there shall be false teachers among you,...**

2 Pet 2:10

10 ...**them that walk after the flesh...Presumptuous are they, selfwilled,**

2 Pet 2:18-19

18 **For when they speak great swelling words of vanity, they allure through the lusts of the flesh,** through much wantonness, those that were clean escaped from **them who live in error.**

19 **While they promise them liberty,** they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, **of the same is he brought in bondage.**

Luke 16:15

15 And he said unto them, **Ye are they which justify yourselves before men;** but God knoweth your hearts: **for that which is highly esteemed among men is abomination in the sight of God.**

CONCLUSION:

Man's ideas about "Self-Esteem" are not the answer to any of our problems. Man's "Self-Esteem" eventually leads to 'self-pride', and the results are devastating!

Isa 47:8

8 **Therefore hear now this,** thou that art given to pleasures, that dwellest carelessly, **that sayest in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me;...**

Isa 47:10-11

10 ...**Thy wisdom and thy knowledge, it hath perverted thee; and thou hast said in thine heart, I am, and none else beside me.**

11 **Therefore shall evil come upon thee;** thou shalt not know from whence it riseth: **and mischief shall fall upon thee;** thou shalt not be able to put it off: **and desolation shall come upon thee suddenly,** which thou shalt not know.

2 Tim 3:1-2

1 **This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come.**

2 **For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud,**

Isa 2:11

11 **The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, and the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the LORD alone shall be exalted in that day.**

Amen!
Timothy II