

Message #89: Think!

August 21, 2016



Quotes to Ponder

Those who think too much of themselves don't think enough. Amy Carmichael

For so blindly do we all rush in the direction of self-love that everyone thinks he has a good reason for exalting himself and despising all others in comparison.... There is no other remedy than to pluck up by the roots those most noxious pests, self-love and love of victory.... This the doctrine of Scripture does. For it teaches us to remember that the endowments which God has bestowed upon us are not our own, but His free gifts, and that those who plume themselves upon them betray their ingratitude. John Calvin

The world's smallest package is a man wrapped up in himself. Charles Swindoll

A life of humility is not an option for a believer to choose or reject. It is a command of God.... Humility is not an optional add-on for the superspiritual; it is for all believers to practice in our daily lives. Jerry Bridges

This passage utterly destroys the notion that a Christian can be committed to Christ but be inactive in His service, that he can love the Lord but not obey the Lord, that he can be surrendered to the Lord but not minister for the Lord. True worship cannot be divorced from service. John MacArthur

Despite all the warnings our culture gives about the danger of low selfesteem, the real danger is self-centeredness and egocentricity. Timothy Keller

Faith ... always holds two things before believers: we are sinners, but we are being redeemed by grace. Faith teaches that we are not who we think we are. We are not indispensable, but neither are we useless. Faith holds fast to the promise that despite ourselves the Holy Spirit can and does use us as instruments of God.

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- 1. What in the text or sermon impacted you most? What encouraged you? Convicted you? Confused you?
- 2. How does this text/sermon apply to your everyday Christian life?
- 3. How does Romans 12:3 tie in to Romans 12:1-2? Romans 12:4-8?
- 4. How highly ought we to think of ourselves?
- 5. Can thinking too lowly of yourself be a form of pride? Explain.
- 6. What do the following verses teach about our attitude towards ourselves?
  Proverbs 16:18 Philippians 2:3-7
  - Isaiah 66:2 James 4:6 —
  - 1 Corinthians 4:6-7 1 Peter 5:5-6 —
  - 1 Corinthians 10:12 —

- 7. Some say, *Jesus valued me enough to die for me, so I should value myself.* Why is this convoluted thinking?
- 8. How should a humble person respond when someone pays him a compliment for something he did well? Is it biblical to belittle what God has done through us?
- 9. Think of a recent conflict that you were part of. How would humility on your part have affected the outcome?
- 10. How do we have sound judgment or think soberly (Romans 12:3)?
- 11. Given the context of *Romans 12:1-8*, what does Paul mean by the phrase, *as God has allotted to each a measure of faith (Romans 12:3)*?

What *faith* is Paul referring to?

- 12. Look at yourself with *sound judgment* and list what gifts God has given you (don't limit yourself to those listed in this passage)? How are you using these gifts at ABC?
- 13. If ABC consisted of members just like me, how well would the body fare?