

Living by His IMAGE WORD

how we see ourselves



Some people may believe that Jesus came to correct or improve the self image they were born with, but unfortunately, this is not the case.

Self image implies just that: one's image of self. Let's journey back in time and take a look at two different biblical patriots by the names of Moses and Gideon. I picked these men because of things they had in common.

The first similarity was that they had a self image problem; second, they both had a big call on their life from God—one that was beyond themselves.

Moses, for example, answered God negatively from a personal opinion of himself. God was calling him to perform a task from a supernatural viewpoint; divine power working through Moses. Moses was looking at what he alone was capable of doing.

Now there's Gideon. He wondered why God would choose him at all. When God approached him, He called him a "mighty man of valor". His name was changed from Gideon; meaning "a cutting down and one that bruises" to one that meant "GREAT WARRIOR." Gideon's father Joash, gave him the name Jerubbaal; also

meaning "a contender with Baal." Gideon had a problem believing what God said to him, so he put forth fleeces that God honored. (**Judges 6**)

Again, our self image had nothing to do with what God can do through us. What it can do, is hinder God's ability to use us if we don't allow our minds to be transformed and renewed through the Word of God. **Our self image is made up of strongholds—reasonings that hold us as prisoners to self deception** (wrong believing, vain imaginations.) It contains our responses (behavior) from character formed in us over time. Our self-image locates our self love and our love for others. It's the source of our validation, confidence, criticism and self-worth. All of the above was set into our thinking, starting at the first glimpse of our awareness as a child. We are "programmed" through this fallen world's (**kosmos**) system according to the prince of the power of the air. **Ephesians 2:2.**

What is wonderfully unique to Christians is that we are born again. We basically get to start over when we give our life to Christ. Newness of life; where God begins the process of renewing the spiritual mind of the soul since our natural mind is non-renewable. (**Romans 8:7 and 1st Corinthians 2:14**) You are NOT creating change in your natural mind's way of thinking, you're adding a new discipline to regulate

the way your natural mind would normally think. (**Hebrews 5:14**) When our "old self" was symbolically crucified with Jesus on the cross, our spiritual mind re-gained its original spiritual identity through the circumcision process (cutting away) of becoming born again. (**Romans 2:28,29**) You're now a new creation, (our new identity) in Christ. (**2nd Corinthians 5:17**) Now begins the process of Christ being "formed in you". (**Galatians 4:19**)

The word "formed" is expressing the necessity of a change in character and conduct that corresponds with the new inward spiritual condition. This is where moral conformity to Christ begins. Christ in you the hope of glory. The first step is to search for scriptures that declare what you inherited in Christ Jesus. What has God declared you to be, "Moses"?... or should I say "Gideon"? Whichever one you are, next month we will deal with the principle of how to change our self image into His.

Love,

Pastor Jann

BASICINFO

SERVICE TIMES

Sunday Morning 10:30 AM
Wednesday Evening 7:00 PM

CONTACT

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SOCIAL

Facebook Page **search for** "By His Word"

'He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress where I will not be shaken. Let all that I am wait quietly before God, for my hope is in him.'
Psalm 62:5-6

Scan with your phone to join



a Word Connection group

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dept. Head MTG | Monday, June 4th @ 6:30 PM

Nathanael Wolf | Sunday AM Service - 10:30 AM, June 10th

Father's Day | Sunday June 17th

OFFICES CLOSED - July 4th & 5th

NO SERVICE - Wednesday, July 4th

253kidscamp.org | Camp from July 30th-August 2nd

Cultivate:Life | \$180 Guys: July 19th-22nd Girls: August 2nd-5th



Flourish

● ● ● GENERATION

MINISTRIES

Cultivate:Life Weekends Guys-July 19-22 \$180
Girls-August 2-5 \$180

Cultivate Youth meets Wednesday @7pm Junior High
Vines meets Sunday @10:30am

Grow Kids: The Great Skybridge Showdown Learning to walk with God every single day!

Grow Kids: 253 Kids Camp "TIME WARP" July 30th-August 2nd
Register at 253kidscamp.org