



"And this is the commandment we have from Him, that the one who loves God should love his brother also." 1 John 4: 21

Sunday – August 23, 2009

## Heart to Heart...

Recently I was watching one of those news programs where the hour is about something happening in the lives of people. In this program, they featured a school which put "self esteem" above everything else! They had one student after another stand before the class telling of their own individual greatness and accomplishments. It was reported that many of the students had difficulty doing their school work but they all had "self esteem!" Worse yet, the teachers and school board were thrilled!! They are getting national recognition.

Somehow I find it extremely difficult dealing with our societies "self esteem" issues. But what is more disturbing is to listen to brothers and sisters in Christ think and talk the same language. From what I read in God's word, He calls all this "pride" and "vanity" – not praised but condemned. Then the slick talkers come up and disguise all this with psychological analysis. I once heard someone make this statement: "*Pride must die in you, or nothing in heaven can live in you!*" Amen!

Let's just examine ourselves and the idea of "self esteem" next to Jesus:

- We are proud of our status – Jesus was God and laid His glory aside (Philippians 2:5-6).
- We are proud of our profession – Jesus was a simple carpenter, nothing great in His time.
- We are proud of our nice homes – Jesus had no where to lay His head (Luke 9:58).
- We boast of our possessions or wealth – Jesus had the wealth of heaven but gave it up to die.
- We are proud about those we "rub shoulders with" and know – Jesus was friends with fishermen, tax collectors and the lowly sinners.
- We take pride in our abilities – Jesus said, "I can do nothing on My own initiative." (John 5:30)
- We like to talk of how we made our own way – Jesus said He did not come to seek His own will.
- We are proud of how well thought of we are and our positions in life – Jesus said, "I came to serve and not to be served." (Matthew 20:28)

We might give serious thought to where we are really taking our instruction and attitudes from. Was it not from God that we are told, "***Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus.***"? Think about it!!!

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