

A Proper View of Ourselves

(Romans 12:3)

Are we guilty of thinking too highly of ourselves? It can be easy to develop this mindset. Paul warns us of this in his inspired letter to the Romans (Romans 12:1-3). This danger is a pitfall we all can fall into! How do we avoid it?

I. Consider the case studies:

A. King Nebuchadnezzar (Daniel 4:28-30)

1. He was someone who possessed power, fame and fortune.
2. But he refused to acknowledge God!
3. He thought he was **self-sufficient**.
4. God would humble him (Daniel 4:31-37).

B. The Apostles (Luke 22:34; Mark 10:35-41)

1. They were in constant **competition**.
2. This is a trap that many of God's people fall into today!

C. The Lord Jesus.

1. If anyone could rightly act as though He was better than others, it was Him!
2. And yet, instead of being arrogant and puff up with pride, He made it His mission to live the life of a **servant** (Mark 10:45).
3. He washed the apostles' feet to teach them this lesson (John 13:1-8).

II. How do we achieve this?

A. Remember **who we are** (Romans 12:4-5)

1. We are God's **creation** (Genesis 1:26).
2. We are God's **children** (2 Corinthians 5:17).
3. We were created to **serve** (Romans 12:3-8).

B. Remember **others** (Philippians 2:3-5).

1. That is what Jesus was doing on the night of His betrayal (John 13).
2. Like Jesus, we can't focus mainly on our needs and concerns.

C. Remember to get our hands **dirty** (John 13:5).

1. There were many other things Jesus could have done to teach this lesson to the apostles (besides washing feet)...
2. But He was teaching them that true servants never look for the easy way out! Instead they get on their knees and get their hands dirty!

D. Remember to have the right **motive** (1 Corinthians 10:31).

1. It is not to receive credit and praise from men.
2. It is to bring glory to God with our acts of service (1 Peter 4:11).

III. The blessings of this kind of life:

A. We will be more like **Jesus** (John 13:14-15).

B. We will be **humble** (Luke 14:11).

C. We will be put on a path to **heaven!**

Conclusion: It can be a struggle to constantly view ourselves in the right way. But Jesus leads us by example (Mark 10:45).