



DELIVERANCE FROM SELF-CENTEREDNESS

STUDY NOTES

CREFLO DOLLAR

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SUMMARY

Self-centeredness is defined as putting yourself in the center of a situation, and occurs when you focus on yourself, instead of what God wants. It is an indicator that you have fallen from grace, and leads to bitterness and grief. If we try to come up with our own plan to deliver ourselves from the self-centeredness that caused these negative emotions, that plan will fail. To see any change for the better, we must depend totally on Jesus, not ourselves.

A. PUTTING GRACE IN THE CENTER OF EVERY SITUATION, INSTEAD OF OURSELVES, MAKES US SELFLESS.

1. Follow peace with everyone, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord (Hebrews 12:14-16).
 - a. To keep from being bitter, we must be careful not to fall from grace.
2. Christ has become of no effect to those who are justified by the Law. Those people have fallen from grace (Galatians 5:4).
 - a. Justification by the Law means thinking our own works make us holy or righteous.
 - b. The world today is self-centered, but we must be humble. Being humble does not mean being a doormat or having low self-esteem. True humility means doing the will of God for your lives.
3. While hanging on the cross, Jesus asked God to forgive those who crucified Him (Luke 23:34).
 - a. Jesus was not self-centered, and this Scripture is a perfect example for us to follow.

4. Do not do anything through strife. In lowliness of mind, put others first (Philippians 2:3).
 - a. This commandment is not a goal for most people, but we can put others first when we are selfless.

B. PRIDE IS ROOTED IN SELF-CENTEREDNESS, WHICH WE MUST AVOID.

1. Contention comes from pride, but the well-advised have wisdom (Proverbs 13:10).
 - a. Emotional pain, strife, arguments, discord, and unforgiveness do not stem from what is said or done to us. They are the results of pride.
2. The beginning of strife is like letting out water. Leave off contention (Proverbs 17:14).
 - a. Contention is the beginning of strife. Wherever there is contention, there is also confusion and every evil work.
3. Moses was meeker than anyone else on the earth (Numbers 12:3).

- a. Meekness and true humility do not mean clinging to our own opinion of ourselves. Neither is it exalting or debasing ourselves. It is simply acknowledging what is true, with no concern over what others say.
 - b. This means that when the Bible says we are holy, and we are the righteousness of God, we show true humility by agreeing with these statements.
4. Jesus called the people to Him, and said that whoever would come after Him must deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow Him (Mark 8:34).
- a. This cross analogy means that we must die to ourselves and avoid being self-centered.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES

Hebrews 12:14-16	Proverbs 13:10
Galatians 5:4	Proverbs 17:14
Luke 23:34	Numbers 12:3
Philippians 2:3	Mark 8:34



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