

## Luke 9 - Taking the Steam Out of Self-Esteem

Who wants to live for Jesus and follow the life He has for you?

Luke 9:18-20 -- We need to remember that Jesus was God's Christ (the Lamb of God/God's Lamb) first before He was ever ours.

--We have no say or input into the salvation God offers us through Jesus.

--God 100% restricts any human input into what pleases Him: Moses was told to make the tabernacle exactly as he saw it:

Ex. 25:9, 40; 26:30; and anytime they built an altar out of stone: Ex. 20:25

--Paints such a dark picture of those who feel free like Cain to construct their own religious system and offer to God whatever they please.

--God wants nothing that we can come up with.

--That's rather offensive to my self-esteem!

Jesus continues to lower that esteem by what He tells His disciples next – Lk. 9:23-26

--**To follow Jesus is not a means of self-fulfillment but of self denial.**

--What Jesus is saying fundamentally opposite of what many preachers are preaching today.

--To hear them, you'd be inclined to think that Jesus is some Utilitarian genie you give a list of wants to and He delivers. "Jesus is here to solve all your problems and make all your dreams come true, make you feel good about yourself, raise your self-esteem to the highest level possible."

--What does it mean to be Jesus' follower? What does it take? What is required to come after Jesus?

--Understand, He is God's Christ first—just as we have no say in our salvation, similarly we have no say in our discipleship.

--It's not like its optional, like "you really won't need your accolades, achievements training, or intellect" NO! He says, "don't bring any of it with you if you intend to follow Me."

--"Do you want to follow Me and live the life I have for you? --die to yourself, deny yourself: your dreams, goals, ambitions, whatever your plans may be—throw it all away, then you can be My disciple."

--Following Jesus is the only means to fulfillment, the only means to find yourself and your purpose.

--But it will never be found in seeking what's best for yourself, never be found in seeking your purpose.

### **1. We face tremendous spiritual dilemma in our world today, possibly the worst of times that the church and gospel have ever faced.**

--II Tim. 3:1-2 – Notice this is a religious barrier, and the first problem that tops the list and sets in motion all the rest.

--The first one is the "why?" for the rest of them: why do I love money? Because I love myself so much. Why am I boastful, proud, abusive, etc.

--Self-love is the modifier of all the other disastrous attributes.

--These are the substance of what's wrong with every marriage, relationship, business, community, country, world. (and the top of the list? Self-love!)

--Super bad news since the goal of our society is to raise up self-lovers, with fulfilling self as the highest aspiration.

--The selfie generation where we want applause and exaggerate our achievements by taking pictures of ourselves and what we've accomplished and putting them where everyone can see

and oooh and aaah at. (I would never stoop so low! – add pics of self!), but its really no laughing matter.

[More people killed in 2020 taking risky selfies than were killed by sharks.](#)

--[The real man-eater is Self-esteem, self-exalting mindset.](#)

--[A 2018 study of news reports showed that there were 259 selfie deaths in 137 incidents reported globally between October 2011 and November 2017.](#)

--[While what we are doing is destroying our world, we've never thought more highly of ourselves and our performance!](#)

--The basis of the Greek for “terrible” means to be lowered into a dark chasm. Perilous, treacherous, can't see the bottom.

--This mantra of Esteeming self is lowering our society into a dark chasm of godless behavior.

--Self-esteem is unbiblical, unchristian, anti-discipleship, satanic, terrible perilous, horrible.

--Never does the Bible promote self-esteem instead it speaks regularly to the importance of a **healthy self-image.**

--**[It is impossible to have high self-esteem and have a healthy self image.](#)**

## **2. Jesus had no Self-Esteem but a perfect self image.**

--**[Phil. 2:6-8](#)** –He had a proper self-image—**He was God!** But He had No self-esteem, self-fulfillment, self-determination.

--“[It doesn't really say He had no self-esteem](#)” – Yeah, it does! But in case you still beg to differ, consider: **[Jn. 5:19; 8:28, 5:30.](#)**

--No works of His own? No words of His own? No judgements of His own?

--[He hadn't been through our elementary school they could have fixed Jesus, taught Him how awesome He is, gave awards for winning nothing, taught Him how to believe in Himself, instructed Him on self will and self-determination.](#)

--[Had He just known to put Himself first and take care of Number One, we would have had such a better Savior! ??](#)

## **Jesus had no self-esteem but He had a pinpoint accurate self image.**

--Today, we are opposite, high self-esteem, very high, super high, and completely inaccurate self-image.

Completely to the contrary of the thinking and actions of Jesus--No one had a higher self-esteem than the Jews of the first century;

--They were taught that they were awesome even though they weren't, **first** even though they were last, the **best** even though they proved that they were the worst by crucifying the Son of God.

--No one ever had a higher self-esteem and a more *inaccurate* self image. **[Matt. 23:6-7 \(the original selfie group\); 13; 14-15](#)**

--Jesus had no self-esteem but the Jews had all kinds of esteem for Him: [Isa. 53:3-4](#) -- why? Because they esteemed themselves!

--They wanted a Messiah but one of their own design who defeats all their enemies and gives them free food and health care.

--That's what happens—when we esteem ourselves we have no room or purpose for a savior,

--No place for true discipleship because why would I deny myself? I'm so awesome!

--**[Rev. 3:17](#)** – Notice the picture of the end times church; High self esteem but a horribly inaccurate self-image.