

Insights for Acceptance of Self

1. God prescribes us before birth.

Psalms 139:13-16 Isaiah 45:9, 10

2. God is not finished making us yet.

Ephesians 2:10 Philippians 1:6

- 3. The cause of inferiority is comparison of unchangeable features.
 - 1) Appearance
 - 2) Aptitude
 - 3) Parentage
 - 4) Social
- 4. Outward beauty is not related to inward happiness. Isaiah 53.2
- 5. God has a universal ideal The character of Jesus Christ. Matthew 5:3-12
- 6. Our happiness and achievement is based on our ability to experience His inward ideal. Matthew 6:33
- 7. If necessary, God sacrifices outward beauty to develop inward characteristics. II Corinthians 4:16
- 8. Self-worth is increased by reproducing Christ's character in others, you are credentials (letter of recommendations) to be read and known by everybody.

 Il Corinthians 3:2
- 9. Difference in unchangeable features are God's special frames to highlight his unique message through us. "My strength and power made perfect, in your weakness." II Corinthians 12:9
- 10. Character is reflected in countenance. Psalm 23:3
 - 1) Correct it, if possible, when the defects distract from inward qualities.
 - 2) Exercise the prayer of faith II Corinthians 12:6
 - 3) Glory in unchangeable "defects" attach new meaning to old defects, the meaning we attach to them determines their problem to us I Corinthians 6:20

Basic Steps to Self-Acceptance

- 1. Detect ungratefulness toward God.
- 2. Thank God for the way he has made you thus far.
- 3. Put yourself back in God's hand and purpose to cooperate in developing inward quality.
- 4. Dedicate yourself to serving Christ by reproducing His Character in the lives of others.