

Gulf Shores Church of Christ (Gulf Shores, AL)

LIVING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE TO THE FULLEST:

Love Yourself

Sermon by: Ray Reynolds (Sunday AM)

Text : Mark 12:28-34

Introduction: We are in a series considering six patterns on how to live our Christian lives to the fullest. We have noticed that God intends for us to follow God emotionally (heart), spiritually (soul), mentally (mind), and physically (strength). However, now the rubber meets the road. We have to use our heart, soul, mind, and strength to motivate our bodies into action both socially and personally. On that note, let me be frank, nearly anyone can look like a Christian and a believer from a certain perspective. But who are you when you are all alone. Do you live what you believe and believe what you live? When it's just you and God, what do you think? How do you follow God personally? And how can you really love yourself?

Discussion:

I. LOVING YOURSELF MEANS ACCOUNTABILITY

We are accountable for our work (**II Chronicles 19:5-10, Romans 14:11-12**)

We are accountable for our sin, which has consequences (**Ezekiel 18:20, 30**)

We are accountable for every word that we speak (**Matthew 12:36**)

We are accountable for each other (**Luke 17:3**)

We are accountable for what we believe (**John 3:18**)

We are accountable for our actions (**II Corinthians 5:10, Hebrews 9:27**)

II. LOVING YOURSELF MEANS SELF-ESTEEM

Our self-esteem is built on God's image (**Genesis 1:26-27, Psalm 139:1-18**)

Our self-esteem is built on God's plan (**Psalm 8:3-5, Luke 12:4-12**)

Our self-esteem is formed by God's loving hands (**Isaiah 64:8**)

Our self-esteem is solidified by God's Son (**John 3:16, Galatians 6:3-5**)

Our self-esteem is affected by our relationship with Christ (**Romans 12:1-8**)

Our self-esteem is based on God's approval (**II Corinthians 10:12-18**)

III. LOVING YOURSELF MEANS SELF-CONTROL

II Timothy 1:6-7, Galatians 5:22-23

* The self-control of the Holy Spirit removes fear, fuels our power, and provokes love.

I Thessalonians 5:5-8, Ephesians 4:11-16

* Self-control establishes our perspective, ignites our flame, and equips us for ministry.

II Timothy 3:1-5, I Corinthians 10:13

* Self-control is hardest when we face adversity, feel alone, and are surrounded by sin.

Conclusion: Every facet of our life should be impacted by our faith in God, our dedication to Jesus Christ, and our comfort in the Holy Spirit. Do you allow love to fill your life and motivate you to serve God? Do you follow God personally?