

Lesson #2

Esteem: My Three Basic Needs

Review of Lesson #1: With the person(s) next to you, answer the following:

- The enemy of having a healthy valuation of myself is ...
- Real esteem doesn't come from inside me, but comes ...
- What happens around me can encourage or discourage me, but can't change my value. That's true because ...

Last Week's Introduction: Status and Role

- ___ Completing a project you've long wanted to complete.
- ___ Receiving high praise from your boss for a job well done.
- ___ Hearing someone compliment you on how nice you look.
- ___ Taking plenty of time for rest and relaxation.
- ___ Being fired or being laid off from a job.
- ___ Seeing your children succeed at something. (i.e. sports, job promotion, etc.)
- ___ Hearing someone criticize you mean-spiritedly.
- ___ Being asked to help with an important project.
- ___ Taking a quiet time for yourself at an appointed time each day.

Introductory question: On your own, list three reasons why people do family trees.

I. The Creation of the World

1. God created the world in six, 24-hour days. God did most of that by _____ .

2. What did God create on each day?

Day One: _____

Day Two: _____

Day Three: _____

Day Four: _____

Day Five: _____

Day Six: _____

3. At the end of days 1-5 God we're told that _____ . At the end of day #6, we're told that it was _____ .

4. God also gave Adam and Eve special blessings. (Genesis 1:26-28). To summarize, Adam and Eve _____ and were given _____ .

<p><i>Discuss it!</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adam and Eve were created in God’s image. That meant that they were perfect, holy! Write down three ways that your life would be different if you were perfect and holy, like Adam and Eve. 2. Adam and Eve were put in charge of creation. To put it into colloquial English, they were the “king and queen” of the created world. Humans are still in charge of creation. Consider each of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ In what ways does the devil try to hide that truth from us? (Can you name three ways?) ➤ As a group, describe two ways that humans have carried out that role properly (or, are carrying it out properly). ➤ As a group, describe two ways that humans have abused that authority.
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II. A Closer Look at Adam and Eve. Read Genesis 2:4-9 and 15-25 and answer the following.

1. God had created everything else by simply speaking. God does it differently with both Adam and Eve. Immediately that tells us _____ .

2. God first gave Adam responsibility, opportunities for meaningful service. Adam could _____ and _____ .

3. Adam thought everything was great, but God knew it could get better. To lead Adam to understand that, God sends Adam to name the animals. As he did so, he would have realized _____ .

4. God answered that need by creating Eve. Adam greets her by saying _____ .

5. So, now Adam not only has a good relationship with God and opportunities for meaningful service, he also has _____ .

6. So, we can see that Adam and Eve had three great needs:
 - a.

 - b.

 - c.

***Discuss
it!***

1. When those three needs are met, a person will have significance, security, and confidence. Explain how Adam and Eve had all three:
 - They had significance ...
 - They had security ...
 - They had confidence ...

2. On your own, choose two reasons why understanding these truths (i.e. the truths about Adam and Eve's creation) are important for you. Then, as a group decide on four.

When I study Adam and Eve, I can learn three important truths about myself:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

A Case Study

An individual has an exciting business idea. After researching it thoroughly, the individual was convinced it would work, that he could do it, and that he was the one who should do it. But he needs some help: a partner, some venture capital, something like that.

So, he put together a proposal with all the information. He had it professionally printed and assembled, obtained a nice cover for the proposal, etc.

Two years have now passed. The person has shown the proposal to quite a few friends and relatives, who are all enthusiastic about it, but he's never shown it to anyone who could actually help him in a meaningful way. Over the course of that time, he has made slight variations to the proposal, but they were almost completely cosmetic. (For example, he changed colors in one of the graphs.) Answer each of the following:

1. If the person showed the proposal to people who could actually help him, what "dangers" would there be?
2. Instead of drawing his sense of value from his status (i.e. what God has said about him and what God has done for him), this person seems to be hinging his esteem completely on his role (i.e. what he does). In what ways has this affected him? (Identify two effects.)
3. In what ways could the lessons we studied tonight and last week help this person move forward? (Decide on two thoughts)
4. Imagine that the individual has now taken the proposal to someone who has the ability to help, but the person has turned him down. What are the possible ways the person could react to the "rejection?" How could the truths of these two lessons help that person at that point?