

life|GROUPS
40's & 50's
Building Strong Families

Selfishness

Quiz

2-8-17

Do you get mad when you don't get your way?

Do you use others to get what you want?

Are you typically critical of others?

Were you spoiled as a child?

Do you talk about self a lot?

Do you believe everyone wants what you have?

Do you blame others for failure?

Do you enjoy giving?

Are you obsessed with physical appearance?

You have a lack of general interest in others?

You seek out positions of power and control?

People who demand their own way are basically saying it's okay to be selfish.

Where did selfishness come from?

- Satan - Isaiah 14:12-14
- Mankind – James 4:1-2

How does it develop in our lives?

Nurtured in childhood

- Parents failed to correct
- Modeled by parents and siblings

Grows in adolescents

- Prideful / arrogant attitude
- Sense of entitlement
- Immodest dress (draws attention to you)
- Treating others like objects
- You oriented priorities

Matures in adulthood

- Comfort seeker
- Materialistic
- Not interested in Children

How do we enable selfishness?

- Permissive parents
- Selfish friends and peers
- Education that promotes good self-esteem without earning it
- Media
- No sense of the sacred
- No sense of others rights
- Lack of purpose

How does selfishness effect our homes?

- Hard to be a good friend
- Hard to be a model of Christ
- You have a lonely spouse
- Obvious to all that you want the best for you
- Men – abusive / pornography
- Easily overreact and get angry
- Materialistic
- #1 goal is personal comfort

How do you break the cycle of selfishness?

1. Repent – The Lord hates the proud/arrogant/selfish heart
 - Proverbs 16:5
 - Proverbs 21:4
 - 1 Peter 5:5
2. Serve – few things change us quicker than serving
3. Give – become a steward not an owner
4. Truth about our thinking - Garbage in/Garbage out

Small Group Questions:

What are your thoughts about this topic tonight?

Quickly walk thru the questions Bob asked at the beginning of the lesson:

Q Do you get mad when you don't get your way?

Q Do you use others to get what you want?

Q Are you typically critical of others?

Q Were you spoiled as a child?

Q Do you talk about self a lot?

Q Do you believe everyone wants what you have?

Q Do you blame others for failure?

Q You don't enjoy giving?

Q You are obsessed with physical appearance?

Q You have a lack of general interest in others?

Q You seek out positions of power and control?

Because the Bible says we are all sinners, when are you most likely to be selfish? When are where are you selfish?

What would those around you, perhaps your family and closest friends, say about you being selfish?

How have you seen it in those around you? Kids?

How do you deal with others selfishness? How would you want others to deal with your selfishness?

What changes do you need to make in your life? Home?