

"I Matter, Because God Loves Me"

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The fear of being nothing but a big zero, our less than, can become a self-fulfilling prophecy. It works like this. When it's time to go for a job interview your fear kicks in and you think, "I'll never impress them I'm an ex-felon; I'll look uneducated trying to obtain a position I don't actually qualify for; they'll ask me questions I can't answer, etc.... A mouse in a lion's den has better odds of success, so you fail miserably and descend yet another level into the basement of self-defeat.

Consider the man or woman who's been reciprocating the jail life ever since they were a young teen. The first few times he or she has the support needed to bounce back, like a nerf ball, into society unscathed and not frowned upon. The problem is old habits die hard and his or her spirit dies right along with these habits. Fast forward to adulthood. Now they're stranded in prison, spirit overtaken by the evil one, and living a life feeling like ~~like~~ they don't matter. Why? Because all their love for themselves and their family support is gone. POOF! In the blink of an eye, bridges have been burnt and safety nets cut down. Not knowing that they still have value in God's eye but can't discover this love for fear of abandonment, which has already taken place because of their lifestyle.

Or consider the girl who's asked out on a date by a good looking guy. So good looking that she wonders what he sees in her. She's sure that once he gets to know her, he'll drop her. So insecurity drives her to use the only tool she trusts, her body. She sleeps with him on the first date for fear there won't be a second, and she ends up feeling like the disposable woman she didn't want to become.

The fear of insignificance creates the very result it dreads, and arrives at the very destination it tries to avoid. Stop! You're disagreeing with God! You're questioning His judgement and second-guessing His taste. His Word says He can't stop thinking about us. If we could count His thoughts of us, they would be more in number than the grains of sand. Why does God love us so much? For the same reason an artist loves his paintings. We are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so that we can do the good →

things He planned for us long ago. So when you get up in the morning, look in the mirror and tell yourself, "I matter, because God loves me!"

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