

An Ego Trip on the Wrong Road

All of us have ego's. The problem is that many people allow their egos to dictate the way they do things, the way they speak, and even the things they think about. I knew a fellow who said, "Everyone has a right to my opinion." He was young, arrogant, and selfish in many ways. He didn't like to be told he was in the wrong. Without question the argument was always somebody else's fault, and he relished the idea of proving you wrong. Some people avoided him in conversation, especially if they're opinions differed from his. Me, I didn't mind him at all, and it was impossible to separate us. I liked his way of life. I enjoyed watching him put people in their place. I laughed when he made someone's ideas seem foolish, he never did it to me. It took me many years to see the "egomaniac" that he was, it took a lot of soul searching, I was him.

No one likes to be around these kind of people, or at least not for long. They are the type of people who sing their praises loudly, but fail to realize they're singing a solo. They will sit down to "chat" with you, but make lousy conversationalists. Unfortunately, this way of life has even found it's way into the lives of many "Christians." Furthermore, the strain of egotism they are infected with is harder to cure and yet easier to contract. They may not verbally sound their own horns, and they may not even ridicule your thoughts or ideas. But their lives are the epitome of "I" dolatry. Their lips may not proclaim you to be inferior, but the life they live echoes the fact that no one else is as important as themselves. They attend services when it is opportune, and they have developed health patterns which require additional nursing in front of a TV...when the rest of the body is assembling. You will not find them at Church functions, clearly their schedules are way too busy. When work details are formed or when a brother or sister needs help, it is rarely convenient for them to be involved. Few, if any, will receive a phone call of encouragement from them, and your mailbox would starve if it depended on them for sustenance. When attending, they smile, laugh, and are generally polite and kind, but when the last amen is said they begin to live THEIR lives.

Christianity has it's roots in placing God first, and it's stock in placing the needs of others above even my own. Jesus so clearly teaches us this simple truth:

*And one of the scribes came and heard them arguing, and recognizing that He had answered them well, asked Him, "What commandment is the foremost of all?" Jesus answered, "The foremost is, 'Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is one Lord; and you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' "The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these." **Mark 12:28-31***

anything else....is egotism. Think about it.

In Him, Byron