

Dear Discouraged - Part 3

"I know I AM, but who am I?"

Pastor Bill Bush
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SHARPEN THE POINT
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For further study of today's message

Review:

- 1) No matter what happens to you, remember God's amazing grace!
- 2) When tempted with discouragement, dare to be different!

TODAY'S BIG IDEA:
When tempted with discouragement,
Remember WHO GOD Says I am!

As part of God's family...

1. I AM ACCEPTABLE "chosen by God" Romans 15:7
2. I AM VALUABLE "you belong to God"
3. I AM FORGIVABLE "you have received mercy"

"...Through what Christ would do for us, God decided to make us holy in his eyes without a single fault -- we stand before Him covered with His love." Ephesians 1:4 (LB)

"The mountains and hills may crumble, but my love for you will never end; so says the Lord who loves you." Isaiah 54:10 (GN)

4. I AM CALLED and CAPABLE. "you are a royal priest"

"He saved us and chose us for his holy work, not because we deserved it but because that was his plan long before the world began..." 2 Timothy 1:9 (LB)

I Corinthians 12:5, 7, 27

How then should I live?

"It is for you now to demonstrate the goodness of God who called you out of darkness into his amazing light." vs. 9 (PH)

"Once you were less than nothing; now you are God's own!" vs. 10 (LB)

"Here am I! Send me." Isaiah 6:1-8

ENTRY POINT: Isaiah's recognition of his own weakness and past failures did not prevent him from having a personal relationship with God or from living a life of service to Him.

Begin by reading **Isaiah 6**.

Isaiah had a clear understanding of God's greatness and mercy **before** he overheard His voice saying "Whom should I send...?" What is your own understanding of the nature of God?

How has your spiritual attitude or your feelings of being unacceptable or unworthy kept you from hearing God's voice?

Have you ever found yourself feeling like you had to "be better" or "more Christian" to be used by God to do His will? How has this "when/then" thinking kept you from action?

Have you struggled to receive God's full measure of mercy and forgiveness? What keeps you from believing you are **chosen, valued and unconditionally loved** by Him?

We are saved to serve! How does the privilege and responsibility of priesthood manifest itself in your daily life?

*"Then I heard the Lord asking,
'Whom should I send as a messenger to my people?
Who will go for us?'
And I said, 'Lord, I'll go! Send me.'"
Isaiah 6:8*