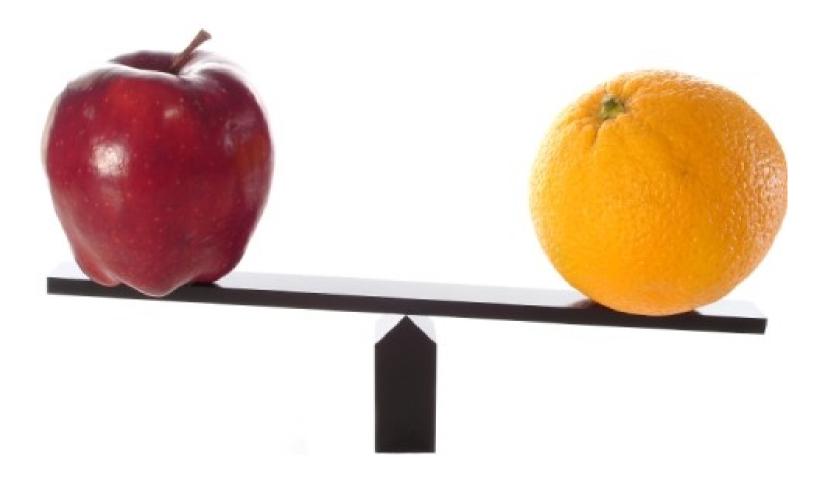
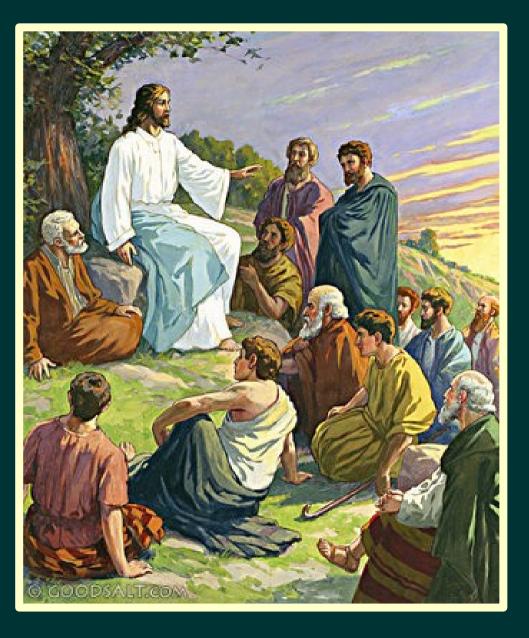
No Comparison - Part 2



Comparing Our Righteousness

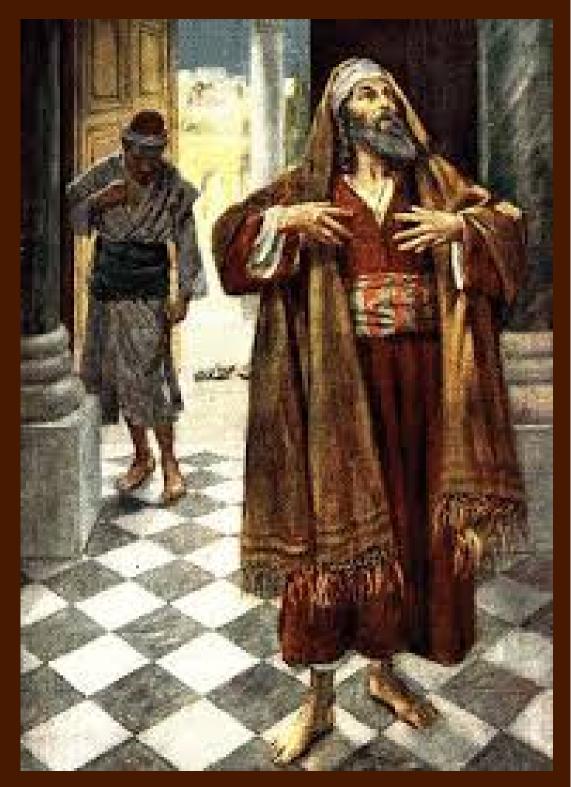


Sometimes when we compare ourselves to others, we feel that we don't measure up, so we hide those feelings behind a mask.



To some who were confident of their own righteousness and looked down on everyone else, Jesus told this parable: **"Two men went up to** the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

The Pharisee stood by himself and prayed: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people -robbers, evildoers, adulterers —or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week and give a tenth of all I get.'



But the tax collector stood at a distance. He would not even look up to heaven, but beat his breast and said, 'God, have mercy on me, a sinner.' I tell you that this man, rather than the other, went home justified before God. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." (Luke 18:9-14)



There are only two kinds of men: The righteous who think they are sinners and

Luke 18:9-14

GodIsMercy

Blaise Pascal

the sinners who think they are righteous.

The reason why we struggle with

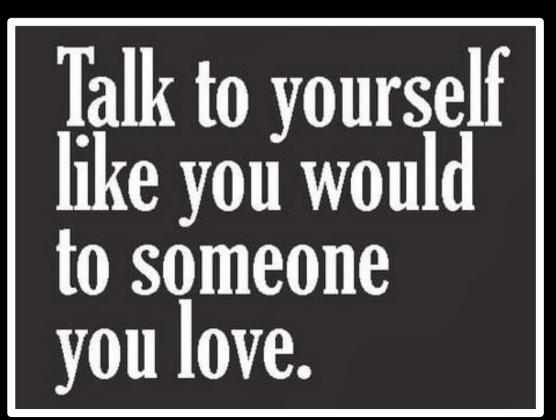
INSECURITY

is because we compare our behind the scenes with everyone else's HIGHLIGHT REEL.

- Steven Furtick

Stop Comparing and Start Cheering

Sometimes we need to give ourselves a pep talk. This is where we need to remind ourselves of our strengths instead of obsessing over our weaknesses.



Sometimes our self-talk takes an ugly turn and instead of being our own cheer squad and best buddy – we bully ourselves. Stop name calling.

Start monitoring the way you speak to yourself and start working on improving what that voice in your head is telling you. You will never speak to anyone more than you speak to yourself in your head, be kind to yourself.

Positive vs. Negative Self-Talk



| Positive | and | Optimi | stic |
|----------|-----|--------|------|
| | | • P | |

Logical, rational and productive

Boosts confidence

Heightens focus/ concentration on the task at hand

6 6



| Negative | and | Pessimistic |
|----------|-----|-------------|
|----------|-----|-------------|

Illogical, irrational and unproductive

Deflates confidence

Reduces focus and increases distractions

Positive vs. Negative Self-Talk

| Attributes failure to surmountable factors | Ş | Ş | Attributes failure to insurmountable factors |
|---|----|----|---|
| Appraises problems as a challenge or opportunity | \$ | \$ | Appraises problems as threats to be eliminated |
| | Ş | S | |
| Motivates you to push your limits | Ş | S | Motivates you to give up easily |
| Focuses on the present | \$ | 8 | Focuses on the past or future |
| Alleviates stress | 8 | Ş | Promotes stress |

What Is Negative Self-Talk?

- I am confident
- •I'm not shy
- I will speak slowly and clearly
- I won't mess up in the meeting today
- I'm going to be positive

Identifying Negative Self-Talk?

- I'm not going to be negative
- I always make mistakes
- I could never do that
- I'm too old to learn new skills
- I'm not clumsy

A statement's negative if it's a statement about something that's derogatory (being clumsy, ugly, stupid, etc.) or, it's a statement about something you don't want to happen (I won't mess up, I am not shy, etc.)

If you take the first two examples above. I am confident and I'm not shy. To your conscious mind, they're both basically the same thing. But to your sub-conscious, it only sees the adjective in the statement: confident and shy.

Then it tries to reach those goals. In the first case your mind will try to prove you're confident, by reminding you of times you acted confidently.

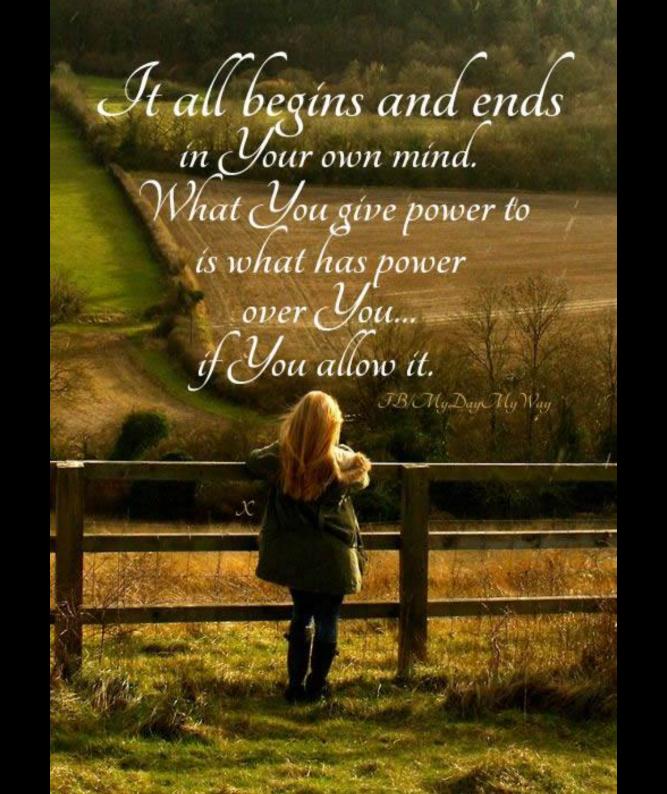
In the second, it will try to prove you're shy, by bringing up times when you struggled in social situations, for example. So, whenever you use affirmations to help you, always make sure that you're using a statement of what you want to happen, rather than what you don't.

Using positive affirmations, backed up with appropriate action, can be very helpful but, unfortunately, using negative self-talk can have devastating effects. This is especially true when you thought you were using positive statements (I am not shy). Because then, you start to believe that the affirmations aren't working, when really they are and you're just asking for the wrong things!

Take some time to decide on a few positive affirmations, then use them at least a couple times each day. You'll be surprised at the result.

CHANGE YOUR THOUGHTS - AND YOU CHANGE YOUR WORLD. - Norman Vincent Pedle

"The happiness of your life depends upon the quality of your thoughts." **Marcus Aurelius**



THOUGHTS ACTIONS

HABITS J CHARACTER

For as a man thinketh in his heart, so is he. Proverbs 23:7

Satan's target is your mind, and his weapons



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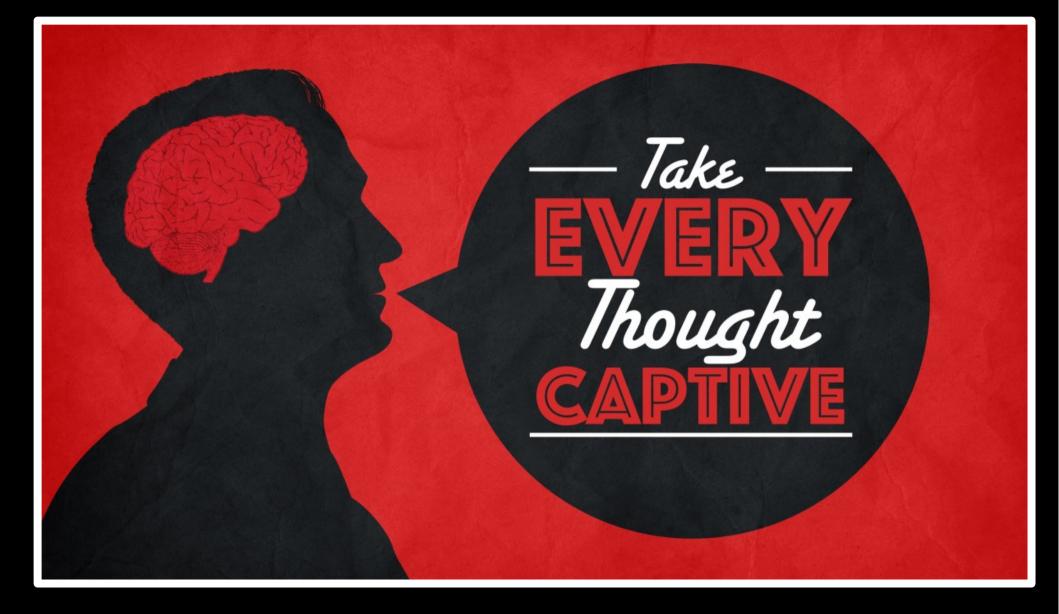
You Say... God Says...

Bible Verses

You Say

God Says

I will direct your steps. I can't figure it out. Proverbs 3:5-6 I'm too tired. I will give you rest. Matthew 11:28-30 It's impossible. All things are possible. Luke 18:27 Nobody loves me. I love you. John 3:16 Romans 8:1 I can't forgive myself. I forgive you. It's not worth it. It will be worth it. Romans 8:28 I'm not smart enough. I will give you wisdom. | Corinthians 1:30 I'm not able. Lam able. II Corinthians 9:8 I can't go on. My grace is sufficient. II Corinthians 12:9 I can't do it. You can do all things. Philippians 4:13 I can't manage. I will supply all you needs. Philippians 4:19 I'm afraid. II Timothy 1:7 I have not given you fear. I will never leave you. I feel all alone. Hebrews 13:5



2 Corinthians 10:5

You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. Isaiah 26:3 "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things" (Phil. 4:6-8).

