

Perspective Versus Presumption

VALORIE QUESENBERRY | JUNE 13, 2018

But am I not a Benjamite, from the smallest tribe of Israel, and is not my clan the least of all the clans. . . (1 Sam. 9:21)

Try Is it a sign of poor character to expect a promotion? Should one expect to be surpassed by the performance of others? Should one pretend ignorance of her own gifts, abilities and possibilities?

When God chose the man to be the first king of Israel, He selected him from the least prominent family in the tiny tribe of Benjamin. Saul's words to the prophet Samuel registered his surprise. We aren't told what his specific skills and gifts were. He was obviously a responsible and trustworthy son for his father to send him on a mission to rescue the livestock. Perhaps he was a gifted leader, a clever strategist, a born agriculturalist.

Saul's opinion of himself is similar to that of Gideon who expressed almost the same thoughts to the angel in Judges 6:15—my family is nothing and I am nothing. Is this the test of character?

According to 1 Samuel 15:17, Samuel told Saul that he had originally been chosen by God because he was "little in his own eyes." Here is the crux of character. When self is the biggest image on one's horizon, good character and wise leadership are impossible. Saul and Gideon were chosen not for their poor opinion of themselves, but for their proper view of who they were in perspective to the God who rules all.

Being small before God makes one tall in life.

Valorie Quesenberry is a pastor's wife, mother, author, speaker and editor of a publication for Christian women. She has a passion to communicate biblical truth for today's issues.

June 17, 2018

The Perfect Father, in Heaven

Sermon Notes:

Luke 12:22-34

1. Our _____ with God the Father

Romans 8:15

1 John 3:1-2

Galatians 4:4-7

2. God's _____ to His children

Luke 12:30-32

Ephesians 3:14-21

Hebrews 13:5-6

3. Our _____ in relationship to God the Father

Psalm 62:5-8

2 Timothy 2:10-13

Reflection: What is one new thing you believe God spoke to you today as a result of worshipping at FOCUS?

The Word of God directs us as we consider what the **next step** is for our lives. What is your next step? Do you have the witness of the Holy Spirit that you have been born again? If not, will you receive Him into your life? If you know Him as a Good Father, in what areas have you been falling short in your role in the relationship?

Challenge: This week I will pray for the following unsaved friends / family members:

Communion at FOCUS

Every Sunday at FOCUS we celebrate the Lord's Table, also known as Communion. We have open communion which means all are invited to receive. We receive communion elements by intinction. Tearing off a small piece of the loaf of bread, dipping it in the communion glass of juice, and then consuming it immediately. Please note, upon your request, we also have gluten free elements for those with gluten and other major food allergies.

No Youth Group Tonight - 6.17.2018

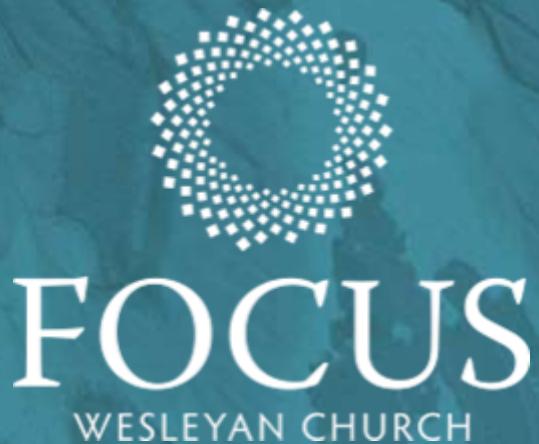
In light of Father's Day, we will not be meeting for FOCUS Youth Group tonight. We are looking forward to an awesome time together next Sunday June 24, 6:30-8 PM. See you then!

FOCUS Local Board of Administration Meeting - Tuesday, June 19 @ 6:30PM

Annual District Conference - July 20, 2018

Eastland Church of God | 2598 Liberty Road | Lexington KY

Registration begins at 8 AM



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TO
We're Glad You're Here!
WORSHIP