

**THE BIG IDEA CURRICULUM**  
**Sermon: Seeing Yourself through God's Eyes**  
**Sermon: 7.03.09**  
**Wayne Krause**

**Small Group Study for Week of March 7-13**

**The Big Idea:** The world uses glasses to see us and tell us who and what we are. God also uses glasses to see us and tell us what and who we are. We get to choose who we believe and how we will then live.

**Comment:** We all look at ourselves through glasses that often are not of our making. These glasses influence what we believe about ourselves.

**Context:**

**There are at least four different glasses that individually or together influence our thinking of ourselves.**

1. Our family
2. Our peers
3. Society
4. Life experiences

**Question:**

Describe the top picture you have of yourself (either good or bad) from one or two of the four glasses named above.

**The glasses God uses to see us through:**

**1. GOD LOVES US**

**Group Reads: Isaiah 49:15, 16**

**Questions:**

1. What do these metaphors about God's love say to you?
2. What is important about the "though she forget, I will not forget, "mean to you?"
3. Can you think of other metaphors about God's love to us that are found in the Bible?
4. Why does God use different metaphors to describe His love for us?

**2. GOD MADE US IN HIS IMAGE AND THEN SAVED US**

**Group Reads: Isaiah 43:1**

**Question:**

1. What does it say to you about God - that God wanted to create us and then after we sinned to save us?

**3. GOD SEES US AS HIS CHILDREN**

**Group Reads 1 John 3:1-3**

**Questions:**

1. When someone says something like, "I am no good, I am useless, worthless, etc"

what are they saying about what God says they are?

2. Why do we so often choose to believe what we see through the world's glasses and not believe what God says we are?

**Comment: There are certain things we need to do if we want to live life as God sees us.**

**Discuss:**

To change from living what the world says I am to how God sees me, I will need to do the following:

1. Admit (confess) to God and some person I trust, that I have been seeing myself, and I am living how the world sees me.
2. Be willing to pay the price (the pain?) it will cost to change my view of myself.
3. Accept I cannot change my view of myself and ask God to change me
4. Ask someone (in my group?) to help hold me accountable to:
  - A. Read out loud, five times daily, 1 John 3:1 while putting my name into the text?
  - B. Refuse to say or listen to negative comments about who I am, remembering I am not perfect but I am a child of God.
  - C. Fill myself with such texts as have been read above, about what God says about me
  - D. Endeavour, in God's power, to live as a child of God, not as someone controlled by the world

**Conclusion to The Big Idea: The world wants to tell me who I am. The devil wants to tell me what I am. God wants to tell me and show me who I really am. I am the only one who gets to choose who I will believe and how I then should live.**

**Question: What does God want me to do as a result of this study?**