seeing ourselves through God's eyes

isaiah 54

Shame

- Hiding your real self from others
- Criticising others to feel better about yourself
- Feeling that you're never going to change
- "I'm just too much/too messy for people"
- "I'm useless" / "I'm a failure"

Isaiah 53

“But he was pierced for our transgressions,
he was crushed for our iniquities,
the punishment that brought us peace was on him,
and by his wounds we are healed”

Isaiah 54

What difference does that make to us?

Isaiah 53

Will you see my Servant?

Isaiah 54

Will you let that change the way you see yourself?

“I’m a failure”

“I will make you fruitful” (v1-3)

“I have to hide”

“I see you, and I love you” (v4-10)

“I’m a hopeless mess”

“I will restore you and
give you peace” (v11-17)

"I'm a failure"

"I will make you fruitful" (v1-3)

"… we have this treasure in jars of clay to show that this all-surpassing power is from God and not from us."

2 Corinthians 4:7

“I have to hide”

“I see you, and I love you” (v4-10)

"The crowning ambition in my life is to be able to be with another person. That's all we all want. We say we want world peace, but in truth we want to be totally exposed in front of someone who says, "Actually, you're all right." The creepy intimacy of really knowing someone and them really knowing me..."

Sue Perkins

“I have to hide”

“I see you, and I love you” (v4-10)

“I’m a hopeless mess”

“I will restore you and give you peace” (v11-17)

- The Servant makes us
- The Servant makes us like him
- The Servant gives us
  - Now: peace with God and so ultimate security
  - Then: total flourishing and wholeness

"I'm a hopeless mess"

"I will restore you and give you peace" (v11-17)

“I’m a failure”

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give you peace” (v11-17)

~~Principles~~

~~Practices~~

Personal God

~~Private~~

~~Individualistic~~

Experienced in community

"The Christ in his own heart is weaker than the Christ in the word of his brother; his own heart is uncertain, his brother's is sure."

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Isaiah 53

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Isaiah 54

Will you let that change the way you see yourself?