



October 15, 2011

Smallest Package in the World

By Teresa Hampton

Someone once said, “The smallest package in the world is a person wrapped up in himself.” A person that is focused or centered on self is usually small in character or spiritually stunted.

How does one know if they are a “small package?” Begin with these questions: Do I use personal pronouns often (I, me, my, mine)? Do I mirror myself continually in the opinion of others, listen greedily to what people say about me, and expect to be appreciated? Am I suspicious, jealous and envious of others? Do I insist on consideration and respect, sulk if people are not grateful, or shirk my duties if I so desire? Do I do just what will be noticed by others, believe I deserve a position, and enjoy having authority over others? Am I sensitive to slights or unforgiving of a criticism? Do I take credit when it’s someone else’s plan, idea, or work? If I say, “Yes,” to any of these questions, I may be a “small package.”

After considering the thoughts, characteristics, and actions of a self-centered person, think of the striking contrast of Jesus. The center or focus of his life was to reveal and glorify the Father (Matt. 11:27, John 17). He *made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross* (Phil. 2:7).

If we want to be like Christ, we will make His thoughts our thoughts. We will reflect His characteristics. We will be a person that does not seek to be noticed or credited with good deeds (ours or others), but seek anonymity. Rather than seeking praise, we will praise others. Life will be less about us, and more about Jesus. We will give God the glory for any good in which we may be involved. In short, instead of being wrapped up in ourselves, we will be completely wrapped up in Jesus through a life of serving others.

Today’s Verse: *Take heed that you do not do your charitable deeds before men to be seen by them. Otherwise you have no reward from your Father in heaven. Therefore, when you do a charitable deed, do not sound a trumpet before you as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may have glory from men. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward* (Matt. 6:1-2).

If you would like to subscribe to **Wellspring**, send e-mail to wellspringforwomen@hotmail.com and type the word **subscribe** in the subject line.

Previous **Wellspring** articles have been archived at and <http://www.karnschurch.org/wellspring>
<http://www.TheBible.net/wellspring>