## Devotional: Tuesday Evening Ray Stedman

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Romans 12:3.
- B. We must allow our minds to begin to be transformed.
- C. Biblical literacy is a significant challenge in the church today.
- D. We need to consider ourselves before others so that ultimately others come out on top.

II. Only by saving yourself will you be able to save others.

- A. You must look to learn about yourself before you can look to others.
- B. What to learn about yourself.
  - 1. Think with sober judgment in what you think.

a. There is a tendency to look only at the positive. Some become boastful braggarts.

b. There are people who continually put themselves down. This is really a matter of veiled pride.

- c. We ought to look at ourselves realistically.
- d. Gratitude is the solution—the chief ingredient of joy.
- e. Think with sober judgment—we all have a sinful nature and there is no exception.
- 2. Think about yourself according to your measure of faith.
  - a. This emphasizes what God has done.
  - b. You no longer are what you once were if you believe in Jesus.
  - c. We must have a sense of significance—God met our sense of worth for us. (Luke 10)
  - d. We have God's identity as new creatures in Christ.
  - e. We need to think about ourselves as God thinks about us.

## **Application questions:**

1. How do people fail to think of themselves soberly? Why is this prideful on both accounts?

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2. What does it mean to think about ourselves from God's viewpoint? Explain.

3. How have you struggled with security in your own self-worth? How does the message address this significant problem in our culture today?

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