

Jewels and Confetti

Recover the Sparkle of your
God-Given Worth



Nancy Kay Grace

Jewels and Confetti:
Recover the Sparke of Your God-Given Worth
by Nancy Kay Grace

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At the beginning creation, everything created by God created was good.

**After He formed Adam and Eve, God saw all that he had made,
and it was very good (Genesis 1:31 NIV).**

**That is, until Satan planted doubts in Eve's mind, asking,
"Did God really say . . .? "**

Sin was introduced, marring the beauty of God's creation.

Adam and Eve faced consequences of doubting the goodness of God.

Everything changed. They became self-conscious in their relationship with each other. They hid from God. They blamed each other and ultimately cast blame on God.

From that point on, doubt entered the world.

People created in the image of God began to wonder about their God-given worth.

Today our lives are no different.

We live in a fallen world where things happen that cause us to doubt our worth in God's eyes, as well as our own.

Several traps keep us from growing in our God-given identity.

Identify the traps that trip us up.

Comparison Trap

The Comparison Trap causes us to look at others and desire to be like them.

We discount our own uniqueness when we try to be someone we are not.

Perfectionism Trap

The Perfectionism Trap causes us to be uptight about every little thing having to be perfect, to an unattainable standard.

We are caught up in the illusion of having a perfect life with everything in order. In reality, life is messy and unpredictable.

Performance Trap

The Performance Trap leads us to think that our actions must always be perfect. We get caught up in legalism, trying to follow the rules to meet a certain standard. This leads to the frustration of not measuring up.

Approval Trap

The Approval Trap causes us to seek the approval of others. We can feel pressure to conform, even when we disagree. We look to others for personal validation.

Unworthiness

All these traps lead to a general sense of unworthiness.

By looking at false standards in the world around us, we decide we don't measure up.

What can be done about it?

Once the traps are identified, what can be done?

We can look to our Creator for restoration, praying for God to open our eyes to faulty beliefs that hi-jacked our self-worth.

The prayer in Psalm 139:23-24 can guide us.

"Search me, God, and know my heart;

test me and know my anxious thoughts.

See if there is any offensive way in me,

and lead me in the way everlasting."

Through Jesus Christ we can become a new creation.

God's spirit makes us new when we humbly come to him, confessing our sin.

God accepts us as we are--we don't have to change for him to love us.

2 Corinthians 5:17 describes becoming a new creation.

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come;

The old has gone, the new is here!"

As we grow in faith and understanding of our self-worth,

God brings transformation in our lives.

We recapture the sparkle, knowing we are made in God's image.

Remember this important truth:

God does not make junk!

Recapture the sparkle of your God-given worth!



In Christ, we are made new.

"Forget the former things;

do not dwell on the past.

See, I am doing a new thing!

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

I am making a way in the wilderness

and streams in the wasteland."

Isaiah 43:19

Celebrate!

The Creator loves you!

“I have loved you with an everlasting love;

I have drawn you with unfailing kindness.

Jeremiah 31:3

See what great love the Father

has lavished on us, that we should

be called children of God! And that is what we are!

1 John 3:1

The Lord your God is with you,

the Mighty Warrior who saves.

He will take great delight in you;

in his love he will no longer rebuke you,

but will rejoice over you with singing.

Zephaniah 3:17

Cue the Confetti!

Our God-given worth brings us joy.

**As you read the verses below, notice the connection between
our individual relationship with God and joy.**

*You make known to me the of path of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence,
with eternal pleasures at your right hand.*

Psalm 16:11

Lord my God, I called to you for help, and you healed me.

*You, Lord, brought me up from the realm of
the dead; you spared me from going down to the pit.*

Sing the praises of the Lord, you his faithful people; praise his holy name.

For his anger lasts only a moment, but his favor lasts a lifetime;

*weeping may stay for the night,
but rejoicing comes in the morning.*

Psalm 30:1-5

The joy of the Lord is your strength.

Nehemiah 8:10

**May you continue to grow in your understanding of your God-given worth.
You are loved by the Creator of the world!**

*May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him,
so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.*

Romans 15:13

About the Author

Nancy Kay Grace is the author of The Grace Impact, an award-winning devotional on God's grace. Her writing has appeared in *Chicken Soup for the Soul*, *The Upper Room*, and several devotional compilations.

Nancy is an engaging Bible teacher and inspiring speaker. Contact Nancy through her website to invite her to come encourage to your group.

As a cancer survivor Nancy understands dealing with unexpected challenges and trusting God in difficult situations.

Nancy is married to her favorite pastor, Rick. For relaxation, she loves hugs from grandchildren, playing worship songs on piano, and hiking with Rick.

Please checkout Nancy's blog and *GraceNotes* newsletter signup at www.nancykaygrace.com.