Trusting God for Who You Are Jerry Bridges

I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Psalm 139:13-16.
- B. We have trouble accepting ourselves as we are.

II. We are who we are because God created us this way. (Psalm 139:13)

A. God superintended all the genetics across the generations up to you. This is amazing to ponder.

B. David ascribes both his physical being and his personality to God.

1. Sin has marred our physical beings and our personalities. As we grow closer to God, we have the opportunity to develop a more well-rounded temperament.

2. Jesus had the perfect temperament and as we become more like Him, we develop balance in our temperaments.

3. You are the result of the detailed work of God, both physically and temperamentally. God loves you and knew what He was doing- we need to trust Him. (Psalm 119:73)

a) Resenting the way you are instead of accepting it can lead to all sorts of problems.

b) Jesus wasn't impressive physically. (Isaiah 53:2)

III. We need to trust God for what we are- that is, what you are doing today. (Psalm 139:16)

A. God has ordained the content of our days, not just the number of them. God has a plan for your life. (Jeremiah 1:4; Galatians 1:15-16)

B. You cannot frustrate God's plan for your life. This does not mean that you cannot sin or "goof up" your life, but God knew about that ahead of time and He knew what He was going to do with it.

C. All of us are a perfect fit in the body of Christ. (1 Corinthians 12)

IV. How do we trust that God has guided our human decisions so that we have ended up where we were supposed to?

A. God is sovereign, but we also responsible to seek His guidance. We are not responsible to find God's will.

B. We have to trust that God is guiding us as we go through a good decision making process. (Proverbs 3:5-6; Psalm 23)

C. We tend to put the emphasis on our responsibility to find out what God's will is, when we should be putting the emphasis on trusting God to guide us. God is not playing games with us as we try to find out what He wants- He is committed to guiding us.

Application questions:

1. When thinking about your shortcomings, how does the knowledge that God created you as you are impact your perspective?

2. How does how we think about "finding God's will" or "God guiding us" influence our attitude toward decisions in our lives? Why is it important to understand this process correctly?

3. How does the knowledge that God created other people the way that they are influence your attitude toward them?