

# When Frogs Become Princes <sup>part 1</sup>

## *The Problem with Being Ugly*



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**1. Realize** \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Ponder** \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Be** \_\_\_\_\_

*Colossians 1:21-23*

*<sup>21</sup>Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior.*

*<sup>22</sup>But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation—*

*<sup>23</sup>if you continue in your faith, established and firm, not moved from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant. (NIV)*

# Application Questions

*These questions are provided for your further study and application of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's message. It is also helpful to discuss your answers with others. This can take place with friends, your family, accountability partners, or ministry groups within the church.*

1. Describe a recent situation which demonstrates that it is always easier to be offended by other people's faults than it is your own.

Even when we do assess our own faults it is usually our tendency to soften the harsh reality of sin with excuses and rationalizations. In what way do you find this double-standard present in your own life? For instance, does your assessment of someone breaking a promise made to you differ from your own self-assessment when you break a promise you made to someone else?

Carefully read Romans 2:1-4. What is your reaction to this passage?

2. What are some of the benefits that come from honestly and sincerely accepting the fact that our lives are inherently ugly before a holy God? Consider the practical and personal benefits and not just the theological.

3. How do you think your Christianity would be different if you were consistently mindful of what you have been saved from? See 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10, especially the last phrase.

4. Understanding the seriousness of our sin can dramatically affect the value we place on God's love. Consider John Newton's 200 year old lyrics, and note recurring contrasts.

*Amazing grace! how sweet the sound,  
That saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
Was blind, but now I see.*

How have these familiar lyrics become more meaningful for you as you have come to understand the gravity of sin?

5. Write out a prayer (or poem) that, in your own words, extols the amazing love and grace of God toward unworthy recipients.

*Read through the Bible in a year! Here is this week's schedule.*

**Sunday**

*Gen. 14-15 & Mt. 7*

**Monday**

*Gen. 16-17 & Mt. 8*

**Tuesday**

*Gen. 18-19 & Mt. 9*

**Wednesday**

*Gen. 20-21 & Mt. 10*

**Thursday**

*Gen. 22-23 & Mt. 11*

**Friday**

*Gen. 24-25 & Mt. 12*

**Saturday**

*Gen. 26-27 & Mt. 13*