

The Performance Trap – Week 2

“I must meet certain standards to feel good about myself.”

Two possible options we can choose to determine self-worth:

- *The world’s system: self-worth = performance (what you do) + others’ opinions (what others think or say about you)*
- *God’s system: self-worth = God’s truth about you* (S. for S. 160)

When God considers you, does he deceive himself in some way or does he know who you truly are?

If you think of yourself differently than God thinks of you, who is mistaken, you or God?

The lie: “I must meet certain standards to feel good about myself.”

God’s truth: “I am completely forgiven and fully pleasing to God.”

Where are we before justification?

Ephesians 2:1-3 And you were dead in the trespasses and sins 2 in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience-- 3 among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.

	Punishment	Discipline
Source:	God’s wrath	God’s love
Purpose:	To avenge a wrong	To correct a wrong
Relational result:	Alienation	Reconciliation
Personal result:	Guilt	A righteous life
Directed toward:	Nonbelievers	His children

How does God justify us?

By the blood of Jesus...

Romans 5:8-10 but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. 9 Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. 10 For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life.

By grace, not by works...

Galatians 2:16 yet we know that a person is not justified by works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ, so we also have believed in Christ Jesus, in order to be justified by faith in Christ and not by works of the law, because by works of the law no one will be justified. (see also Romans 3:28, Titus 3:7)

What have we received from Christ?

2 Corinthians 5:21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

What is our standing before God after being justified?

Romans 5:1 Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Colossians 1:22 He has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him,

John 17:23 I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

If you are justified, God is as pleased with you and loves you as much as Jesus.

How do we live after receiving Christ's righteousness?

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; 15 and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.