

The Honest Truth

The Truth about Performance Based Acceptance: Part 1 Philippians 3:3-10

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Truth: Your ultimate pursuit as a Christ follower is to grow in your relationship with Christ so that He can transform your heart and lead you to follow Him and serve Him faithfully.

Four Traps of Performance Based Faith

- Performance Trap – I will follow the rules and be the best at any cost.
- Approval Trap – I need others to validate me.
- Blame Trap – I blame others for my failures.
- Shame Trap – I feel shame and guilt because I never measure up to what I think others think of me.

Trap 1: Performance Based Salvation

- Performance Trap – I must meet certain standards in order to feel good about myself.
 - Consequences – fear of failure leads to perfectionism, drive to succeed, manipulate others, pride, anxiety/depression, etc.
 - God's Truth – I am justified in Christ – forgiven, declared righteous, and pleasing to God (Rom 5:1)

Paul's Story

- Paul thought salvation was based on what He could do for God instead of what Christ could do in and through Him, Phil 3:4-6

Lesson about Acceptance

- Our sin keeps us from earning our salvation. Salvation comes by grace and forgiveness of sin through Christ. Christ transforms our hearts and gives us a desire to put away sin and follow Christ.

BOTTOM LINE

Serving God is a matter of the heart. When you love God with your whole heart, you serve Him because you want to not because you feel you must.