

# Elephant in the Room

## Part 3—Working It Out

### 1. Why Do We Live Our Lives So Focused on Works?

- Three reasons:
  - We are \_\_\_\_\_ to think this way
  - Accomplishment is \_\_\_\_\_ in our DNA

*Genesis 1:31—<sup>31</sup>And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. (ESV)*

- \_\_\_\_\_ has sold us the \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. What Works CANNOT do:

- Works cannot . . .
  - \_\_\_\_\_ my salvation for me

*Ephesians 2:8-9—<sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith. <sup>9</sup>And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. (ESV)*

- Make me \_\_\_\_\_ in the eyes of God

*Romans 3:20—<sup>20</sup>For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin. (ESV)*

*Isaiah 64:6—<sup>6</sup>We are all infected and impure with sin. When we display our righteous deeds, they are nothing but filthy rags. Like autumn leaves, we wither and fall, and our sins sweep us away like the wind. (NLT)*

- \_\_\_\_\_ me a sense of \_\_\_\_\_

*Ephesians 2:1-2—<sup>1</sup>And you were dead in the trespasses and sins, <sup>2</sup>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 . . . (ESV)*

### 3. What Are Works?

- Works are . . .
  - The \_\_\_\_\_ of my salvation

*James 2:18—<sup>18</sup>But someone will say, “You have faith and I have works.” Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works.” (ESV)*

- \_\_\_\_\_

*John 4:14—<sup>14</sup>But whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life. (NIV)*

- The way to help me fulfill my \_\_\_\_\_

*Matthew 5:16—<sup>16</sup>In the same way let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven. (NLT)*

- The way I show the \_\_\_\_\_ who I \_\_\_\_\_ to

*Ephesians 2:10—<sup>10</sup>For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. (ESV)*

*John 13:34-35—<sup>34</sup>So now I am giving you a new commandment: Love each other. Just as I have loved you,*

*you should love each other. <sup>35</sup>Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples. (NLT)*

*Acts 8:36—<sup>36</sup>As they rode along, they came to some water, and the eunuch said, “Look! There’s some water! Why can’t I be baptized?” (NLT)*

### **Action Steps . . .**

- Salvation & baptism