



Part 1: Performance Lie

Many people find their value in what they accomplish in life. The better they perform, the more valuable they feel. But what we accomplish or how we perform adds nothing to our value. The foundation of our value comes from something entirely different.

Bottom Line: God's love serves as the foundation of my identity.

Discussion Questions:

1. Who is someone you admire? What about them do you find admirable?
2. From where do we generally derive our value?
3. **Read Luke 3:21-22.** God's declaration of his relationship to Jesus comes prior to any accomplishment from Jesus. How might that inform the way we think about our own accomplishments and failures as well as the performance of others?
4. **Read Luke 4:1-3.** Included within the temptation the devil threw at Jesus was for him to prove whether or not he was the Son of God by doing something. Why would the devil try and cast doubt on Jesus' identity?
5. **Read Ephesians 2:1-5.** What do you learn about the universal human nature from this passage?
 - a. Outside of Jesus Christ, what is our standing (status) before God?
 - b. What motivated God to act on our behalf?
 - c. **Read Romans 5:8.** When did God act on our behalf? Why is this good news? As a Christian, what does this mean regarding your worth and identity?
 - d. **Read Romans 8:1 & 8:31-39.** These verses announce an amazing truth about the power of God's love for those who are in Christ. Why is it that so many Christians still struggle with trying to earn God's favor through performance and accomplishment? How can this cycle be broken?
6. What has been the most helpful thought/idea from the message this week? How has that thought/idea helped you?
7. How can the group pray for or encourage you this week?

*If time doesn't allow for you to discuss all of these questions, use only the ones you feel would be most helpful for your group.