# TABOO THREE:

## Return of the Elephant



# REVIEW

- Disagreement is OK, come have a conversation
- Planned over a year ago
- Pester the Pastor returns

# What is Performance Based Value?

A belief that **what you do**, say, how you perform a task **determines your worth**.

- At home
- At work
- At church

We derive all our value by our own actions.



# Is PBV bad?

Short answer? ***Sometimes***

- It’s sneaky!

But what does Scripture say about our value…?



# Genesis 1:27

27 So God created mankind in **his own image**,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.



# 1 Peter 2:9

9 But **you are a chosen people**, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, **God's special possession**, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.



# Scripture Based Value

- We are God's creation- we create things we care about
- Special Possession of God!



# Romans 5 : 8

[8]But God demonstrates his own **love for us** in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.



# Scripture Based Value

- We are God's creation- we create things we care about
- Special Possession of God!
- Loved by God- worth dying for



# 1 Samuel 16:7

7 But the Lord said to Samuel, “Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him. **The Lord does not look at the things people look at**. People look at the outward appearance, but **the Lord looks at the heart**.”



# Scripture Based Value

- We are God's creation
- Special Possession of God
- Loved by God
- Valued for our heart and spirit- not outward appearances



# The PBV Problem- Motivation

## Why are you performing?

- Love
  - Dinner for the family
  - Donate money or time to a shelter



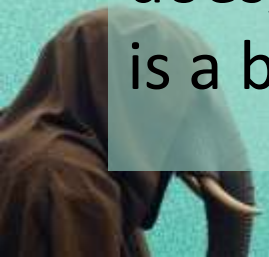
# Ephesians 2:10

10 For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.



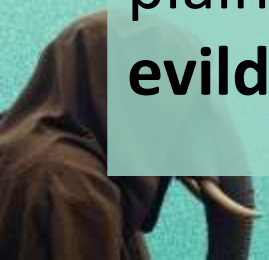
# Ephesians 6:5-8

"Bondservants, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, **not by the way of eye-service, as people-pleasers**, but as bondservants of Christ, doing the **will of God from the heart**, rendering service with a **good will as to the Lord and not to man**, knowing that whatever good anyone does, this he will receive back from the Lord, whether he is a bondservant or is free



# Matthew 7:21-23

21 “**Not everyone** who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will **enter the kingdom** of heaven, but only the one who **does the will of my Father** who is in heaven. 22 Many will say to me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name and in your name drive out demons and in your name perform many miracles?’ 23 Then I will tell them plainly, **‘I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!’**



# Matthew 6:1

[1]“Be careful not to practice your righteousness in front of others to be seen by them. If you do, **you will have no reward** from your Father **in heaven**.



# The PBV Problem- Motivation

Why are you performing?

- Love
- Selfishness
  - You donate money and tell the world about it
  - You make a big deal out of bringing a meal to a needy family
  - Take on another project at work because you loved the praise you received last time
  - You lead because you get to be in charge- the micromanager



# The PBV Problem- Motivation

Why are you performing?

- Fear
  - If I don't do ____ they will think less of me
  - If I don't do ____ I'm not worthy of love



# PBV…we've lost the plot

*If we rely so much on what others think of us, then we have lost sight of what God already sees in us!*



# Accept It.

- God gives us value
- God sees our value
- Nothing we do will make us more valuable than we already are
- We don’t deserve God’s love…
  - But he chose us anyway!



# Romans 3:23-24

23 for **all have sinned** and **fall short** of the glory of God, 24 and all **are justified freely by his grace** through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus.



# Ephesians 2:8-9

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and **this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God**— 9 not by works, **so that no one can boast**.



# 2 Corinthians 12:9

9 But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore **I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses**, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.



# SO WHAT?

- You are valuable!
- Take time to reflect

# 2 Corinthians 13:5

5 Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not realize that Christ Jesus is in you—unless, of course, you fail the test?



# SO WHAT?

- You are valuable- accept it!
- Take time to reflect
  - Take a break if you need it
- Tell your people they are valuable- no strings attached

**You can’t outdo God, so stop trying!**

# TIME OF GIVING

Online giving is also available on our church website, **www.westmiddlebury.org**, and on our Tithely app.



Offering boxes are
available at both entrances.

2 Corinthians 9:7