

## 91. Validation



I delight in the sight of mention of an activity of my class in the school newsletter. I feel flushed with success when my faculty exam scores are the best in the region. At a professional function I boast about my school for I feel uncomfortable with obscurity. Notoriety primes my pump; I am quite adept at putting the façade of humility over ego boosting occasions. When I look within, to my chagrin I discover that my ministry successes all have a vein of ego enhancement running through them. In the presence of God I recognize that self-validation is a poison that drives me to keep seeking validation/value outside of Him. I am a rebel, making the choice of works and success on the world's terms. I don't seem to fully trust in the reality of the love of God for me, nor His mercy and grace.

My concept of "the good" is my status, power, qualifications, possessions, comfort and security. But I find that God has a different idea of what constitutes my primal good. His priority is on character development and piety. He wants me to think, act and have the attitude of Jesus. Jesus was remarkably indifferent to the approval of His contemporaries. He said and did nothing to get validation from the Romans, the elite, the intelligentsia, neither the religious nor those considered popular. Jesus was free of that inner driving passion to be praised we are afflicted with.

Our validation is not to be found in our ministry, possessions and trophies. Your significance rests securely in the amazing love of God for you as a unique and precious individual. One important sign of your value is that God has chosen you as a repository of the Spirit of Jesus. This Jesus cares nothing for the applause of others and instead delights in obscure and menial tasks like foot washing. God values you so much that he paid a horrific price in ransom to make you His. You are indeed precious.

## References:

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:<sup>[a]</sup> The old has gone, the new is here! 2 Cor 5:17

Humble yourselves before the Lord, and he will lift you up. Jas 4:10

Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. <sup>5</sup> It does not dishonour others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. <sup>6</sup> Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. I Cor 13: 4-8

But when the kindness and love of God our Saviour appeared, <sup>5</sup> he saved us, not because of righteous things we had done, but because of his mercy. He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, <sup>6</sup> whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup> so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. Tit 3:4-7

But God 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. 2 Cor 12:9

For those God foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brothers and sisters. Rm 8:29

And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate <sup>[a]</sup> the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. 1 Cor 3:18

Dear friends, now we are children of God, and what we will be have not yet been made known. But we know that when Christ appears,<sup>[a]</sup> we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is. 1 Jn 3:2

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f7A\\_K-DUsYA](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f7A_K-DUsYA)

Nick Vujicic with no legs or arms, explains why you are validated

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X\\_2qG22SPwU&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X_2qG22SPwU&feature=related)

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