

5 ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT GOD AND WHY THEY ARE WRONG

SESSION 4: "GOD WILL NEVER BE HAPPY WITH ME"



IN THIS SESSION

How does God really see me and what does he think about what he sees? Session 4 will explore this very question and show that, because of Jesus' work on the cross and his resurrection from the dead, God is inclined to be pleased with us.



KEY PASSAGES

- **Romans 8:1-3** ¹ There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do.
- **2 Corinthians 5:16-18** ¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸ All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.
- **Colossians 1:19-22** ¹⁹ For in [Christ] all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. ²¹ And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him.



DISCUSS

- Almost all of us have a story or some experience where we encountered someone we felt could never be pleased, no matter what we did or how hard we tried? Be encouraged to share some aspects of your story with the person or group alongside you for this Study. Based on your response to that situation, what tends to be your typical reaction when it seems you just can't please another person? Do you dispose of the relationship, feel guilty because of it, or react in some other way? How does your typical response give insight into the way you might view and respond to God?
- Jeff asked two (2) specific questions in the Session that are worth addressing in conversation with other people in response to this assumption about God. Respond to each of these questions in the following progression:
 - What if you stopped working *for* God's love and started working *from* his love?
 - How would this change your perspective about God and his character?
 - In what ways might this perspective shift result in changes in your behavior?



PRAY

- Take a moment to thank God for the work of Jesus Christ, the one who has brought the possibility of a restored and renewed relationship with him (see 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Colossians 1:22 in the *Key Passages* section above). Ask God to continually lead you into places, both in thought and in action, that remind you that he is pleased with you! Pray that you would increasingly operate in your life *from* his love rather than *for* his love.