

ARE YOU FORGETTING THE GOSPEL?

Which of these might best describe how you feel about your life with God?

Anxious Alice

- Says she trusts Jesus, but feels as if God only loves her when she manages to obey him.
- Feels insecure and worried because of her sins.
- Usually thinks that God often gets disappointed with her, or that he might not want to save her.
- Might secretly wish God didn't exist so that she wouldn't have the pressure of trying to impress him all the time.
- Doesn't pray much because it's too intimidating.
- *Doesn't deeply love God.* How could she love someone whom she feels is constantly annoyed with her?

Needs to more deeply believe the gospel that...

God totally forgives, accepts, and loves her—far more than she can imagine—because she belongs to Jesus.

1 John 1:9
John 1:12

Smug Sarah

- Admits she sometimes sins, but has convinced herself she's really not all that bad.
- Feels superior to others because she follows Jesus, yet mostly ungrateful to him for saving her.
- Usually thinks God *ought* to be good to her; it's his job and she's done nothing bad enough to deserve punishment.
- Might work hard at keeping up a good image to make sure others notice how good she is.
- Doesn't pray much because she doesn't feel she needs to.
- *Doesn't deeply love God.* How could she love him when she's never come to grips with how much she mocks him by her smug attitude and how much he's loved her anyway?

Needs to more deeply believe the gospel that...

She's a *huge* sinner—far worse than she imagines—but Jesus still died for her.

Romans 5:8
1 Timothy 1:15

Complacent Kyle

- Claims to follow Jesus, but isn't interested in changing his life for Jesus in any meaningful way.
- Feels easygoing and unconcerned about his sins.
- Usually thinks he should use God to make little life improvements, but has little interest in letting God use him.
- Might secretly feel bored with Jesus even though he enjoys church or youth group activities.
- Doesn't pray much because prayer is boring.
- *Doesn't deeply love God.* How could he love him when there's no challenge or growth—no thrill—in the relationship?

Needs to more deeply believe the gospel that...

Being joined to Jesus means far more than bland forgiveness. It's the power to repent and live for God in thrilling ways he can only begin to imagine.

Titus 2:11-14
Ephesians 2:10