

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, Philippians 3:9, Galatians 3:1-3, Colossians 2:6, Colossians 1:16, Ephesians 1:11, James 1:18. Psalm 139:15-16, Ephesians 1:4, and Isaiah 46:2-4

Trusting God and Others with My Authentic Self

Who am I? "I am a person already deeply pleasing to God."¹

Authentic – willing to say that I am not capable of living the way I want – and **Pleasing** – willing to say that although I know that I am not capable of living the way I want, I choose to trust God and others with this shame-inflaming truth about myself.

Don't you realize that this is not the way to live? Unjust people who don't care about God will not be joining in his kingdom. Those who use and abuse each other, use and abuse sex, use and abuse the earth and everything in it, don't qualify as citizens in God's kingdom. A number of you know from experience what I'm talking about, for not so long ago you were on that list. Since then, you've been cleaned up and given a fresh start by Jesus, our Master, our Messiah, and by our God present in us, the Spirit. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11, The Message

Humble – willing to be made willing to be transformed as I aggressively trust how God sees me as I accept his invitation to be my goodness,

my power, my ability, my strength, my healing, and my truth.²

The very credentials these people are waving around as something special, I'm tearing up and throwing out with the trash—along with everything else I used to take credit for. And why? Because of Christ. Yes, all the things I once thought were so important are gone from my life. Compared to the high privilege of knowing Christ Jesus as my Master, firsthand, everything I once thought I had going for me is insignificant—dog dung. I've dumped it all in the trash so that I could embrace Christ and be embraced by him. I didn't want some petty, inferior brand of righteousness that comes from keeping a list of rules when I could get the robust kind that comes from trusting Christ—God's righteousness. Philippians 3:7-9, The Message

One Thing Changes Everything

My counsel for you is simple and straightforward: Just go ahead with what you've been given. You received Christ Jesus, the Master; now live him. You're deeply rooted in him. You're well constructed upon him. You know your way around the faith. Now do what you've been taught. School's out; quit studying the subject and start living it! And let your living spill over into thanksgiving. Colossians 2:6-7

Empathetic – able to sympathize with others in the same boat and fully capable of releasing the compulsive need to judge self or others.

**TrueFaced principles are extrapolated from TrueFaced, by Bill Thrall, Bruce McNicol and John Lynch – read about them in more detail by purchasing their materials at the back table of NSC.*

² Paraphrased from *TrueFaced, Experience Edition*, by Bill Thrall, Bruce McNicol, and John Lynch, NavPress 2004, p.63.

March - Trust

Book of the month: *Stepping Out On Nothing* by Byron Pitts

The interpretation of grace as having only to do with guilt is utterly false to biblical teaching and renders spiritual life in Christ unintelligible.

Dallas Willard

TF Principle: Humility is trusting God and others with me.* (TrueFaced Principle 3 from TF12 Road Map)

Step 3 We made a decision to turn our life and will over to the care of God.

¹ *TrueFaced, Experience Edition*, by Bill Thrall, Bruce McNicol, and John Lynch, NavPress 2004, p.63.