

GOSPEL FLUENCY

NOTES FROM JEFF VANDERSTELT'S SESSION

AT THE AUSTIN STONE INSTITUTE - MEN'S DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

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FLUENCY DEFINED

THE QUALITY OR CONDITION OF BEING FLUENT.

THE QUALITY OR CONDITION OF BEING ABLE TO EXPRESS ONESELF EASILY AND ARTICULATELY.

MY DEFINITION: KNOWING SOMETHING SO WELL THAT IT JUST ROLLS OFF YOUR TONGUE.



WHY SHOULD WE BE FLUENT IN THE GOSPEL?

RATHER, SPEAKING THE TRUTH IN LOVE, WE ARE TO GROW UP IN EVERY WAY INTO HIM WHO IS THE HEAD, INTO CHRIST, (EPHESIANS 4:15 ESV)

WE ARE FLUENT IN EVERYTHING ELSE WE CARE ABOUT (AND SOME THINGS WE DON'T CARE ABOUT).

THE GOSPEL IS THE ONLY THING THAT WILL SUSTAIN US AND THE PEOPLE WE PASTOR / DISCIPLE.



GOSPEL SATURATION

Becoming fluent in something involves moving...

from:

I dunno what
I dunno.



I know what
I dunno.



I know it...
ish.

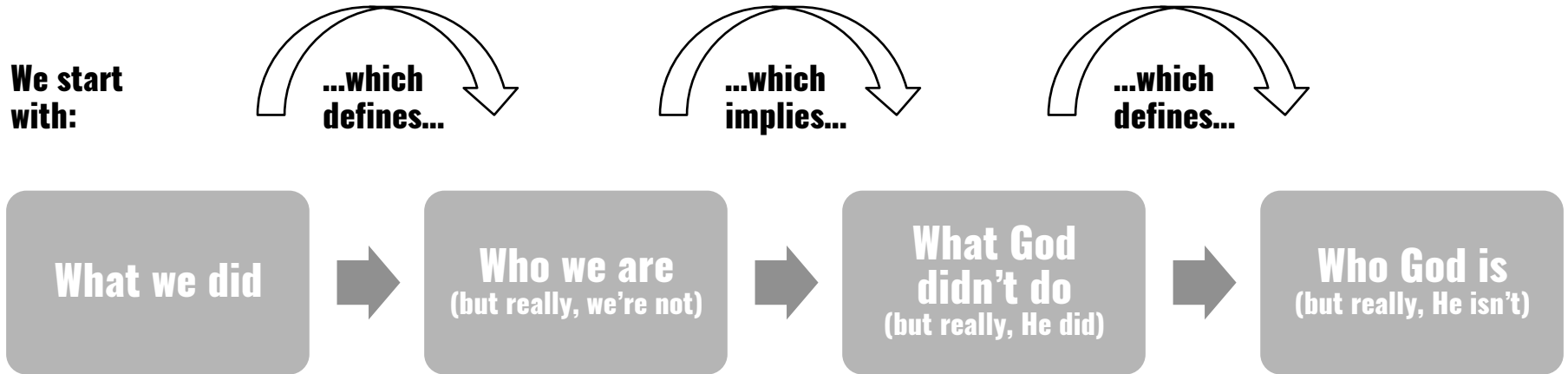


I know it.

to:

COMMON MISAPPLICATION OF THE GOSPEL

What are the sins we are generally confessing?



UNBELIEF: THE ROOT TO ALL SIN

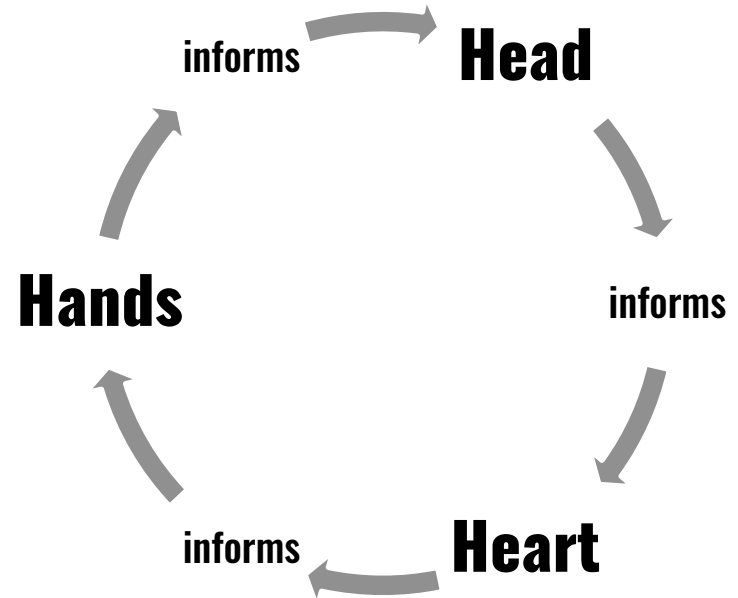
ALL SIN HAS TO DO WITH UNBELIEF

Behind every behavior is a belief

To change behavior redemptively, belief must change which will inform our behavior

Repentance isn't a change in behavior, it's a change of mind about who God is, which leads to a change in behavior

IT'S A CYCLE



WALKING IN OBEDIENCE

FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT:

We should ask **where** we're not experiencing the Fruit of the Spirit and then ask:

- *Not: "are you trying to be (patient)?"*
- *Rather: "why aren't you being (patient)?"*

People talk about whether or not they're "in the Spirit"; let the Fruit of the Spirit tell you that, not what you think.

PRAYER:

"If you're doing something you don't need God's help to do, you're not doing what God wants you to do." – Jeff

Ask God how to handle every situation and then listen.



APPROPRIATE UNDERSTANDING OF THE GOSPEL

Who God is

- Great
- Glorious
- Gracious
- Good

What God did

- He lived
- He died
- He rose

Who we are

- Heirs
- Called
- Saved
 - From the penalty of sin - past
 - From the power of sin – current
 - From the presence of sin - future

What we do

- Selfless acts
- Minister
- Evangelize
- Disciple
- Fruit of the Spirit

WHAT CHRIST DID

1. THE PERFECT LIFE
2. THE DEBT PAYMENT IN HIS DEATH
3. ROSE FROM THE DEAD, MAKING US RIGHTEOUS



THE FOUR G'S

GOD IS (FROM TIM CHESTER):

Great, so I don't have to be in control - Jesus rose from the dead - *control idol*

Glorious, so I don't need others' approval - Jesus is above every name and every authority - *power idol*

Gracious, so I don't need to prove myself - Jesus did it all to make us approved - *approval idol*

Good, so I don't have to look elsewhere - Jesus gave us His best and He is deeply satisfying - *comfort idol*



OTHER NOTES

ANYONE FEELING A LACKING IS SEEKING APPROVAL OR PLEASURE IN SOMETHING BESIDES GOD.
WE CAN LIE DOWN IN GREEN PASTURES BECAUSE WE DON'T LACK ANYTHING.

ASK QUESTIONS TO GET TO THE HEART: DIG INTO MOTIVE AFTER MOTIVE AFTER MOTIVE.

ANY TIME YOUR LIFE RISES AND FALLS BASED ON SOMETHING, YOU WORSHIP THAT THING

ACCOUNTABILITY QUESTION: WHERE HAVE YOU NOT BEEN BELIEVING THE GOSPEL THIS WEEK?

TRINITARIAN PRAYER:

We go to the father, who gives us the Son, and we can only get anything done via the Spirit

- *Talking to the Father*
- *Worshiping the Son*
- *Listening to the Spirit*

