

CONSEQUENCES OF THE FOUR ERRONEOUS BELIEFS AND GOD'S ANSWERS

Problem	Wrong Beliefs	Consequences	God's Answer	Consequence	Result
Approval Addict	I must be approved by certain others to feel good about myself.	Fear of Rejection: Anger, resentment, hostility, being easily manipulated, co-dependency, avoid people, control, depression, attempting to please others at any cost; overly sensitive to criticism, withdrawing from others to avoid disapproval.	Reconciliation: Although I was at one time hostile toward God and alienated from Him, I am now forgiven and have been brought into an intimate relationship with Him.	Because of reconciliation, I am totally accepted by God. I no longer have to fear rejection. (Colossians 1:21-22).	Increasing freedom from the fear of rejection; willingness to be open and vulnerable; able to relax around others; willingness to take criticism; desire to please God no matter what others think.
Performance Trap	I must meet certain standards to feel good about myself.	Fear of Failure: Perfectionism; avoiding or withdrawal from healthy risks, anger, resentment, anxiety, fear, pride, depression, low motivation, driven to succeed, manipulating others to achieve success.	Justification: God has not only forgiven me of my sins, but has also granted me the righteousness of Christ.	Because of justification, I am completely forgiven and fully pleasing to God. I no longer have to fear failure. I bear Christ's righteousness and am, therefore, fully pleasing to the Father (Romans 5:1).	Increasing freedom from the fear of failure; desire to pursue the right things; Christ and His kingdom; love for Christ.
The Blame Game	Those who fail are unworthy of love and deserve to be punished.	Fear of Punishment: Self-induced punishment, bitterness, passivity, punishing others, blaming self and others for personal failure, withdrawal from God and others, driven to avoid failure.	Propitiation / Atonement: Christ satisfied God's wrath by His death on the cross.	Because of propitiation, I am deeply loved by God. I no longer have to fear punishment or punish others. (1 John 4:9-11).	Increasing freedom from the fear of punishment; patience and kindness toward others; being quick to apply forgiveness; deep love for Christ.
Shame	I am what I am; I cannot change; I am hopeless.	Shame: Feelings of shame, hopelessness, inferiority, habitually destructive behaviour, self-pity, passivity, loss of creativity, isolation, withdrawal from others, co-dependency, despising our appearance.	Regeneration: I am a new creation in Christ	Because of regeneration, I have been made brand new, complete in Christ. I no longer need to experience the pain of shame. (John 3:3-6).	Christ-centred self-confidence; joy, courage, peace; desire to know Christ.