Our Experience of Self

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**Introduction**

**Main Idea**

Every person operates from an identity. Identity is simply your self-perception: the beliefs you have about yourself, the values you measure yourself by, and the commitments that shape your choices. The more your self-perception aligns with God’s perception of you, the healthier and holier.

**The Importance of Self-Conception**

**Constructed Identity**

**Given Identity**

1. **I am created, and therefore both eternally valuable and inescapably dependent.**
2. **I am fallen, and therefore both bad and broken.**
3. **I am redeemed, and therefore forgiven and loved.**
4. **I am newly created, and therefore both cleansedand waiting.**

**Submitting Constructed Identity to Given Identity**

1. **Consider the source of this identity.**
2. **Consider the center of this identity.**
3. **Consider the purpose of this identity.**

***Discussion Question:* Everyone has self-perception. But it’s often so subtle we don’t realize we believe and feel certain things about ourselves. Do any examples come to mind of how various beliefs or desires about yourself motivate the way you live?**