

Discussion Questions

1. The *Westminster Shorter Catechism* defines faith in Jesus in this way: "Faith in Jesus Christ is a saving grace whereby we receive and rest upon him alone for salvation as he is offered to us in the gospel." How is this definition helpful? What does it tell us about how we grow in faith?
2. Based on the previous definition, what does it mean that "our justification depends not on the quality of our faith, but on the object of our faith?" How might we get this wrong?
3. One of the ways to understand the concept of "justification" (v.24) is to think of it as "a validating performance record." On a practical level, what are some of the things that we look to as our "performance record" for validation and acceptance?
4. In verses 22-23, Paul argues that "there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." How does this relate to the question in verse 27, "What becomes of our boasting?" What is the "boasting" that he is referring to? What leads to it, and what can we do about it?