

## **The Performance Treadmill: Overcoming Idolatries of Achievement and Status in the Life of the Pastor/Leader**

Too many Christian leaders are driven by insecurity, perfectionism and anxiety over status and approval. In this seminar we trace these struggles to the pursuit of false idols of self, underpinned by deeper conflicts about identity, control and power. Simple cognitive approaches can help us to combat these default postures of the heart. But we will explore a more radical response— an approach that seeks to incarnate the theological truths of our identity in Christ in a more experiential and intentional understanding of self as an image-bearing child of God.

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I. The Performance Treadmill: some uncomfortable truths

II. Understanding the heart

A. Survival

B. Status

C. Security

D. Self

### III. Renovating the Heart

#### A. The foundations of Identity

1. The pursuit of Self-worth

2. Revelation and dialogue

#### B. Re-imagining the Self

1. Inhabiting your identity: a cognitive and emotional task

2. Judging your achievements not yourself

3. Aiming your heart for his glory

#### ***Suggested Readings:***

1. Slides downloadable from [glynnharrison.com](http://glynnharrison.com) (password: elf2014)

2. Harrison, G (2013) The Big Ego Trip: finding true significance in a culture of self-esteem. IVP (or published by Zondervan 2014 under title Ego Trip)
3. Jensen M (2012) True Feelings. APPOLOS
4. Bolt, P (2012) Touching the Emotions: preaching the Gospels for Divine Effects In: Jensen (2012)
5. Brain, P (2004) Going the Distance. Matthias Media