

Boa states, “our task is to be more motivated by the things God declares to be important than by the things that the world says are important.” I do believe that believers have more options than unbelievers. The problem with the human condition is internal and that the only solution is a changed heart.

The horizontal motivators are fears of loss, guilt, pride, and hope of personal gain or reputation, which I believe is in relations to the world. Biblical motivators are vertical, the invisible and the not yet. We may be able to identify more with love and gratitude than with longing for God.

As Boa states, “they are all facets of the same gem.” I do agree that biblical motivators is actually negative, it can keep us in a process of obedience. When we give our lives to Christ, we abandon every alternative to other approaches to the meaning, value, and purpose in life. Can you imagine being in a universe without God?

There is no source of ultimate meaning. Very few people have thought through these logical implications of a world without God, and no one can live consistently with them. The question may arise, where else can we go? Either Christ is the way or not. God’s authority is absolute, and our ultimate disposition is in his hands alone.

The Old and New Testaments relate the fear of God to knowing him, loving him, obeying him, and honoring him. The fear of the Lord not only means having a reverential awe of God but also relates to the mindset of a subject in a great kingdom. We are Christ bondservants.

The third motivator is a growing response of love and gratitude, not always seeking to get, but being thankful. Do we love God for himself than for his gifts and benefits? Are we motivated to seek his glory and honor than we are to seek our own? Are you willing to pay the price so that he is pleased?

Instead of seeing the fullness of what we have received in Christ, we tend to approach our experiences from a deficiency perspective. Love and gratitude are healthy biblical motivators that can help us stay in the process of growth in Christ likeness.

There are rewards that God gives. Scripture also affirms that the experience of heaven and hell will not be uniform, since there are degrees of punishment. I do believe our responsibility relates to the way we invest the time we have been granted. Rewards are determined by the degree of our faithfulness to the opportunities we have been given.

God approval relates more to the focus of our hearts than to the measurable achievements that are usually associated with our world called success. There is a reward when you can display God's character. The more we love and serve others in Christ, the richer our relational rewards. We look not at the things which are seen, but the things which are not seen.

We should not be motivated by rewards only, but just to hear "Well done, good and faithful servant." We are far too easily pleased. In comparison with what God wants to give us, the best this world can offer is toys. Boa stated, "The last three of the seven motivators are our identity in Christ, purpose and hope, and longing for God.

In him, we have been granted great dignity, security, forgiveness, unconditional love and acceptance, hope, purpose, righteousness, wholeness, and peace with God. We have to believe the truth and not feel it. Most people fail to wrestle with the issue of purpose without reasoned purposes to guide them. Jesus had a clear understanding of the purpose of his life.

He derives his purpose from his Father and not his own ambitions. The apostle also had a well defined sense of purpose that involved a passion for knowing Christ. Hope is related to purpose. Both purpose and hope moves us toward long term gain.

Godly hope is also achieved through adversity. We are likely to come in contact with our hope during trials and afflictions.

To have found God and still to pursue Him is the soul's paradox of love. God waits to be wanted, but he must be wanted for himself and not for some lesser good he may provide.