

APPROVAL

March 25, 2018

3 Signs you are longing for approval:

- You are always wondering what people think
- You compromise your values
- You have a hard time saying no

Introduction:

Talking through the message during the week helps you turn what God is saying to you into action steps. These talking points, questions and scriptures are designed to help you take the next step in your journey with God. Use as many as you need.

Becoming obsessed with what **people** think about you is the **quickest** way to **forget** what **God** thinks about you.

Discuss Sunday's message.

Have you ever known someone who was a people pleaser? What was their life like?

Other Scriptures: Matthew 23, Matthew 7:1-5, 1 Corinthians 8:1-3, Matthew 15:8-9, Psalm 20:7, 2 Corinthians 7:4

Read Galatians 1:10

Who is Paul trying to please? Who is he not trying to please?

Why did he say that he wouldn't be a servant of Christ if he tried to please men?

Read 1 Thessalonians 2:4

What motives do we have for trying to please people?

What do we fear would happen if we failed to please them?

Read Matthew 6:33

What needs are you expecting others to meet that can only be met by God?

What choices or changes do you need to make in order to have those needs met only by God?

Read John 12:42-43

Why is people pleasing a form of idolatry?

How can people pleasing be a type of addiction?

Read Proverbs 29:25

What problems can happen if we fear man and not God?

Share examples of problems that you have run into by trying to please people.

Read Psalm 34:9

How can the fear of the Lord be an antidote for the fear of man?

What are some steps you can take to live in the fear of the Lord?

People pleasers often **take criticism personally**, have an extraordinary **fear of rejection**, find it hard to **express their true feelings**, or having a hart time **saying "no"**.

Describe which of these characteristics may affect you. What are some specific steps you can take to overcome this characteristic?

Which of the following are traps in being a people pleaser?

___ I will compromise for you.
___ I will over-commit for you.
___ All of the above.

Why do you think these are called "traps"? In what ways would someone be tempted to compromise for someone they wanted to please?

Read Philippians 2:3

What is the balance of being considerate to others and not being a people pleaser?