

ESCAPING THE PEOPLE PLEASER TRAP

You Asked for It – Part 3

Rev. Steve Norman

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“It is dangerous trap to be concerned with what others think of you, but if you trust the Lord, you are safe.”

Proverbs 29:25 (TEV)

WHY TRYING TO PLEASE EVERYONE IS A TRAP

1. IT CAUSES ME TO MISS GOD’S PURPOSE FOR ME

“Our purpose is to please God, not people. He is the one who examines the motives of our hearts.”

1 Thessalonians 2:4b (NLT)

2. IT KEEPS MY FAITH FROM GROWING

“You try to get praise from each other, but you do not try to get the praise that comes from the only God. So how can you believe?”

John 5:44 (NCV)

3. IT LEADS TO SIN

“Do not follow the crowd in doing wrong!” Exodus 23:2a (NIV)

“Then Saul said to Samuel, “I have sinned; I have indeed transgressed the command of the Lord and your words, because I feared the people and listened to their voice.”

1 Samuel 15:24 (NAS)

4. IT CAUSES HYPOCRISY

“He said to them, “You are the ones who justify yourselves in the eyes of men, but God knows your hearts” Luke 16:15 (NIV)

“You may brag about yourself, but the only approval that counts is the Lord’s approval.”

2 Corinthians 10:18 (CEV)

5. IT SILENCES MY WITNESS

“No one had the courage to speak favorably about Jesus in public, for they were afraid of getting in trouble with the leaders.”

John 7:13 (NLT)

“Many people, including leaders, believed in Jesus. But they wouldn’t talk about it publicly out of their fear that the Pharisees would expel them from the synagogue. They loved human approval more than they loved the approval of God.” John 12:42-43

SIX FACTS TO REMEMBER

1. EVEN GOD CAN’T PLEASE EVERYONE!

Example: If two people pray about the rain – 1 prays for rain and 1 for no rain, one of them will not be pleased by God sending rain. Likewise, if two people on opposing teams pray to win a sports event, one of them will be disappointed!

2. I DON’T NEED ANYONE’S APPROVAL TO BE HAPPY!

Jesus: “Your approval or disapproval means nothing to me.”

John 5:41 (NLT)

“I am the One who comforts you! So why are you afraid of mere humans, who wither like the grass and disappear?”

Isaiah 51:12 (NLT)

“Even if my father and mother abandon me, the Lord will hold me close.”

Psalms 27:10 (NLT)

3. WHAT SEEMS SO IMPORTANT IS ONLY TEMPORARY

“The world and everything in it that people desire is passing away; but those who do the will of God will live forever.”

1 John 2:17 (TEV)

Jesus: “The things that are highly valued by people are worth nothing in God’s sight.”

Luke 16:15b (TEV)

4. I ONLY HAVE TO PLEASE ONE PERSON!

Jesus: “I don’t try to please myself, but I only please the One who sent me.”

John 5:30 (NCV)

Paul: “I’m not trying to be a people pleaser! No, I am trying to please God. If I were still trying to please people, I would not be Christ’s servant.”

Galatians 1:10 (NLT)

5. **ONE DAY I WILL GIVE AN ACCOUNT OF MY LIFE**

*“Yes, each of us will have to give a personal account to God.”
Romans 14:12 (NLT)*

*“If anyone is ashamed of me and my words, I, the Son of Man
will be ashamed of him when I come in my glory and in the glory
of the Father and of the holy angels.” Luke 9:26 (NIV)*

6. **BE WHO GOD SHAPED YOU TO BE**

*“Don’t let the world around you squeeze you into its own mold,
but let God remold your minds from within, so that you may
prove in practice that the plan of God for you is good, meets all
his demands and moves towards the goal of true maturity.”
Romans 12:2 (Ph)*

MEMORY VERSE:

***“Fear of man will prove to be a snare,
but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.”
Proverbs 29:25***