

# ESCAPING THE PEOPLE-PLEASER TRAP

## SERIES: You Make Me Crazy – Part 4

November 19, 2017

*“It is a 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 2:4 (NLT)*

#### 2. It keeps me from **GROWING** in my faith.

*“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 me to **SIN**.

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

*Saul confessed to Samuel, “I’ve sinned. I’ve trampled roughshod over God’s Word and your instructions. I cared more about pleasing people so I let them tell me what to do.”  
1 Samuel 15:24 (MSG)*

#### 4. It causes **HYPOCRISY** in our lives.

*Jesus: “You make yourselves look good in other people’s eyes but God knows your hearts.”  
Luke 16:15a (TEV)*

*“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!

## 2. I don't need anyone's **APPROVAL** to be happy!

*Jesus: "Your approval or disapproval means nothing to me." John 5:41 (TLB)*

*"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."  
Psalm 27:10 (NLT)*

## 3. What seems so important now 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'll 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. God shaped **ME** to be **ME**.

*"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)*