



I. REVIEW/INTRO

- A. We live in a somewhat selfie obsessed society
- B. New Series calling filter
 - There are a lot of different kinds of filters
 - Air, coffee, oil
 - We're talking about filters that make us look better but ...

2 Corinthians 10:12 (NIV) We do not dare to classify or compare ourselves with some who commend themselves. When they measure themselves by themselves and compare themselves with themselves, they are not wise.

- C. The seal of approval
 - 1. You occasionally or often worry about what others think.
 - 2. We are often overly sensitive
 - 3. You compromise your values
 - 4. You hesitate sharing your faith
 - 5. You have a hard time saying no

II. THE DISEASE TO PLEASE IS A TRAP

- A. Fear of people sets the trap in motion

Proverbs 29:25 (NLT) Fearing people is a dangerous trap ... but trusting the Lord means safety

Hebrew word **Mokesh – a trap stick**. The trap stick is what sets the snare in motion. It also means very literally, A hook for the nose. Trying to please people is a form of idolatry – you're putting the approval of others in front of God's approval

- Safety actually means to be set on high far from slavery

Being obsessed with what people think about me is the quickest way to forget what God thinks about me.

III. HOW DO WE OVERCOME THE DISEASE TO PLEASE?

- A. Focus on pleasing God instead of pleasing people.



Galatians 1:10 (NLT) Obviously, I'm not trying to win the approval of people, but of God. If pleasing people were my goal, I would not be Christ's servant.

- You can't please everybody

B. I may not be able to please everybody but I can please God

C. Live from the approval of God instead of for the approval of people.

1 Thessalonians 2:4 (NLT) For we speak as messengers approved by God to be entrusted with the Good News. Our purpose is to please God, not people. He alone examines the motives of our hearts.

IV. WHAT DOES GOD SAY ABOUT YOU?

A. Ten things God said about you

- You are greatly loved by God

1 John 4:10 (NLT) This is love! It is not that we loved God but that He loved us. For God sent His Son to pay for our sins with His own blood.

- You are a new creation in Christ

2 Corinthians 5:17 (NRSV) So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

- You are completely forgiven

Ephesians 1:7 (TLB) So overflowing is his kindness toward us that he took away all our sins through the blood of his Son, by whom we are saved;

- The resurrection lives in you

Romans 8:11 (NLT) The Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from the dead, lives in you. And just as God raised Christ Jesus from the dead, he will give life to your mortal bodies by this same Spirit living within you.

- You are more than a conqueror through Christ

Romans 8:37 (GNT) No, in all these things we have complete victory through him who loved us!

- You are God's masterpiece



Ephesians 2:10 (NLT) For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.

- You are an equal heir with Christ

Romans 8:17 (NKJV) and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together.

- You are Christ’s Ambassador

2 Corinthians 5:20 (TLB) We are Christ’s ambassadors. God is using us to speak to you: we beg you, as though Christ himself were here pleading with you, receive the love he offers you—be reconciled to God.

- You are the Light of the world

Matthew 5:14 (TLB) You are the world’s light—a city on a hill, glowing in the night for all to see.

- Don’t be afraid to shine brightly – God says you can – and when you know who you are, you’re going to know what to do. So SHINE!

B. Don’t get squeezed

Romans 12:2 (NKJV) ² And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what *is* that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.

- Christianity is simple, it’s just not easy
- Rom 12:1 makes 12:2 possible

Romans 12:1 (NKJV) I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, *which is* your reasonable service.