

EPISODE: 552

TITLE: **Why Pleasing Everyone Isn't Your Job**

Sometimes the best way to truly care for others and yourself is to stop caring about what certain people think.

Here are 3 things to believe and consider when thinking about who to listen to...

1. **What God knows about you and every person that you ever meet and do life with is paramount.** He alone knows the hearts, motives, and plans that he has for you and everyone else! Love hopes the best and expects God to do the work of glorifying himself while he uses and changes us to do that.
2. **True salvation is being set free from the tyranny of worrying about what others think of you.** God showed his great love for us by sending Christ to die for us *while we were still sinners*. (Romans 5:8) He deeply knows you, and he still loved you enough to exchange his perfect life for your less than perfect life. Jesus died that we'd be set free from self-love and fear of man, and once again put God and his glory (what he's really like) before and above all others... and their opinions of us.
3. **You are not the center of other people's focus—they usually are.** Remember, you would care a lot less about what others think about you if you knew how little others think about you! Pray for words to speak to others, especially for more sensitive conversations, and wait for God to do what only he can do. Their response, or lack of, is their choice. Be faithful to do, act, and speak according to the Spirit and the Word.

If we are not willing to speak the truth in love for fear of what the other person will think of us, that is self-love, and it is falling into the lie that this person is more glorious than God and their opinion is heavier and outweighs what God thinks and says is true of you. Which is, He loves and cherishes you regardless of your performance or perfect words and actions!

Thanks for listening... we'll see you in the next episode!

~Caesar