

MA N-PLEASING

Rachael Martin 1.9.15

*Psalms 86:11 – Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk in your truth;
unite my heart to fear Your name.*

My pastor said something that has sat in my spirit all week long. I felt that it wouldn't hurt to speak to my spirit-man and remind myself that my striving is in vain if the Lord isn't the reason why I do it. He said (and I'm paraphrasing because I can't get the audio archive to get his exact words):

“When change happens, if the first thing we think is “How does this affect me?”, then we are still an immature Christian.”

I'm reminded of my email signature:

“May we be so heavenly minded, that we are much earthly good.”

It's the exact opposite of what I've heard people over and over again say:

“We are so heavenly minded that we are no earthly good.”

It's amazing the changing of a few words...

It's about to get a little heavy, I pray you stick with me. One of the truths about the man-pleasing spirit is that we aren't controlling our flesh. We are looking to please ourselves, our flesh, and/or someone else and not God.

- Are we striving within ourselves to make things happen because we desire a certain outcome?
- Have we been practicing transparency and actively involving ourselves in serving the body of Christ and the lost?

- Are we wondering what we will get out of the change that is happening before us? Better yet, are we worried about what we will get out of the deal we see in front of us?
- Are we insecure about what someone else thinks about what we did or said?
- Are we making decisions based on fear or uncertainty?
- Do we feel like we need acceptance or approval by other people in order to live?

Things don't always happen fairly or the way we expect them to – but we are supposed to turn to the Word when we are unsure. We are to filter all that we don't know and don't understand through the truth and light of God's Word. The veil was lifted at the cross – because of Jesus Christ – we have direct access to all of God, not just a part – so if one thing can be certain, it is that God is the One Person in our whole existence here on this earth that has never failed you and me. He will lead us in all our ways.

Unfortunately, there are consequences when we get wrapped up in trying to please anyone other than God. God is love and He is justice. He stands for righteousness. He is our Rescue when we don't know anything else and any other thing that we conclude besides these absolute truths is perverted and is meant to trap us into not seeing the reality of Who God was, is and will forever be in our lives.

Galations 1:10 – Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ.

Proverbs 29:25 – The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is safe.

Saying yes to something or someone out of fear or wanting their acceptance will never grow our trust in God. And God knows our motives anyway!! God understands that you have wants and desires, He created you!! His desire is to see us set free from sin, selfish motives, thoughts, and ways.

The enemy of our souls will not give up trying to steal our gaze until he is cast into the lake of fire forever, so him and his minions will try to take all that we have and know to be true in the Lord Jesus Christ and they will come and try to pervert it, twist it, manipulate it and make us try to take our eyes off of Him and get us to focus on ourselves – BUT – when we have renewed our minds and we have kept our eyes on Jesus, we will stand, we will be able to discern what is the will of God and what is good and acceptable. We will make decisions based on the Word of God and the wisdom He gives us when we ask for it.

Tell the man-pleasing spirit – to “go in Jesus name” and then get in the bible and worship the Lord and continue to fill your spirit man so that there is never a need to say “what’s in it for me?” because we are too busy being about the Father’s business to concern ourselves with that amen?

The Lord knows what makes us tick, He knows what is in our alabaster box because He formed and fashioned every part of who we are and who we are becoming in Him. We are growing in the grace and love of our Lord Jesus Christ and our gaze is fixed on Him and with the help of the Holy Spirit, He will teach us how to be a pleasing servant to the King of all kings and everything else falls into place when we are pleasing the heart of our Father.

Have a GREAT weekend fixing your eyes on Him – knowing it will bring Him great pleasure!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ms8ecNtV7Nk>

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