

# My Longing For Approval

## Altar Ego #4

Pastor Ken Ritz \* Feb 27, 2022 \* New Life Vineyard Church

### REVIEW

Altar: the place where you make a sacrifice, or lay down something before God.

Ego: what we believe (think) about ourselves.

### SIGNS YOU ARE LONGING FOR APPROVAL

- \_\_\_\_\_ You Worry About What Others Think.
- \_\_\_\_\_ You Are Overly Sensitive.
- \_\_\_\_\_ You Compromise Your Values.
- \_\_\_\_\_ You Hesitate Sharing Your Faith.
- \_\_\_\_\_ You Have A Hard Time Saying No.

*Fearing people is a dangerous trap, but trusting the LORD means safety.*

Proverbs 29:25 NLT

### HOW DO WE OVERCOME THE DISEASE TO PLEASE?

- 1) Focus On Pleasing \_\_\_\_\_  
Instead Of Pleasing \_\_\_\_\_

*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.*

Galatians 1:10 NLT

- 2) Live From The Approval Of \_\_\_\_\_  
Instead Of For The Approval Of \_\_\_\_\_

*...We speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts.*

1 Thessalonians 2:4

### WHO DOES GOD SAY YOU ARE?

- You are a **new creation in Christ**. 2 Cor. 5:17
- You are **forgiven** and your **sins are washed away**. Eph. 1:7, Ps 51:7
- You are **more than a conqueror** through Christ. Rom. 8:37
- You are **God's masterpiece**. Eph. 2:10 NLT
- You are the **light of this world**. Matt. 5:14
- You are **filled with the same spirit** that raised Christ. Rom. 8:11
- You are a **joint heir with Christ**. Rom. 8:17
- You are **Christ's ambassador**. 2 Cor. 5:20
- You are the **righteousness of God** in Christ. 2 Cor. 5:21
- You are **greatly loved** by God. Rom. 1:7, 8:38-39

### For Discussion This Week

- In what ways are you longing for the approval of others? How has that affected you?
- What steps can you take to focus more on pleasing God and living from the approval of God?
- How do you think the way you see yourself differs from who God says you are?

*\*All scriptures from NIV unless otherwise noted*