

## **The Approval Addict**

Series: The Search for Significance

Galatians 1:10; Colossians 1:21-22 (1724)

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Galatians 1:10 NIV *Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people?*

### **I. Virtually all of us fear rejection**

#### **a. To be rejected by someone is to experience pain**

Robert McGee *I don't believe that any of us, in this life, will gain complete freedom from the tendency to base our self-worth on the approval of others. Our God-given instinct to survive compels us to avoid pain. ...The good news is, because we are fully pleasing to God, we need not be devastated when others respond to us in a negative way.*

#### **b. The ugly consequences of being an approval addict**

### **II. God's answer for the approval addict: Reconciliation**

#### **a. In Jesus Christ we move from being God's enemy to God's friend**

Colossians 1:21-22 NIV *Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. <sup>22</sup>But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation*

Robert McGee *Because of Christ's redemption I am a new creation of great worth. I am deeply loved, completely forgiven, fully pleasing, totally accepted by God, and absolutely complete in Christ.*

Proverbs 29:25 NIV *Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe.*

Robert McGee *Jesus Christ alone is the final authority on our worth and acceptance.*

#### **b. Earthly relationships that can make receiving this truth more difficult**

#### **c. Earthly relationships that can make receiving this truth less difficult**

Romans 12:10 NIV *Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves.*

Romans 12:16 NIV *Live in harmony with one another.*

Romans 14:13 NIV *Therefore let us stop passing judgment on one another.*

Romans 15:7 NIV *Accept one another, then, just as Christ accepted you*

2 Corinthians 13:11 NIV *encourage one another*

Galatians 5:13 NIV *serve one another humbly in love.*

Ephesians 4:32 NIV *Be kind and compassionate to one another*

2 (1724a notes)

Ephesians 5:31 NIV *Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.*

James 5:9 NIV *Don't grumble against one another, brothers and sisters*