

APPROVAL
Labeled – Part 4

ON TV: An altar was a place where people who loved God would **sacrifice or lay something meaningful down** before God.

ON TV: Our **identity**. Because our identity is often the labels we wear, based on who we **think we are**, or who **others** thinks we are.

ON TV: The need for **APPROVAL**.

ON TV: INSECURITY

ON TV: We allow **CRITICS** to label us, instead of letting what God says about us, **TRANSFORM** our heart and mind.

ON TV/OUTLINE: *“The thief comes only to **steal** and **kill** and **destroy**; I have come that they may have **life** and have it to the full.”*
John 10:10

ON TV: What are some specific signs that indicate that we might be **living for** the approval of others?

ON TV:

#1: We occasionally or often **worry about what others think**.

#2: We are often **overly sensitive**.

#3: We **compromise our values**.

#4: We hesitate to **share our faith**.

#5: We have a hard time saying, **“No.”**

ON TV: Why do we do this? Because our identity is **rooted** in something other than Jesus Christ.

ON TV/OUTLINE: Becoming obsessed with what people think about us is the quickest way to **FORGET** what God thinks about us.

ON TV/OUTLINE: *“Fear of **man** will prove to be a **snare**, but whoever **trusts in the Lord** is kept safe.”* Proverbs 29:25

ON TV: PICTURE of Cow with ring in nose

ON TV: Pleasing people is the sin of **idolatry**. It is putting the **approval of people** ahead of the **opinion of God**. It is making **people too big** in our lives and **God too small**.

ON TV: We **cannot simultaneously live** for the approval of people and the approval of God.

ON TV/OUTLINE: We must **FOCUS** on pleasing God instead of pleasing people.

ON TV: Instead of living for the crowd and their approval, we choose to **live for an audience of one**, Jesus Christ.

ON TV/OUTLINE: *“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

ON TV: The people who were **nothing** like Jesus, **liked** Jesus.

ON TV: Springbrook Community Church...a **“No Perfekt People Church.”**

ON TV: You **cannot** please all people.

ON TV: We cannot please everybody, but **we can please God**.

ON TV: I can’t please everybody, but **I can please God**.

ON TV: We choose to **live from** that approval of God instead of **living for** the approval of people.

ON TV/OUTLINE: “On the contrary, we speak as those **approved by God** to be entrusted with the gospel...” 1 Thessalonians 2:4a

ON TV: It’s us **living out the identity** of that change that Christ makes in us.

ON TV/OUTLINE: “...We are not trying to please men, but God who **tests our hearts.**” 1 Thessalonians 2:4b

ON TV: When God looks at us, he **doesn’t see our sinfulness**; he **sees the righteousness of Christ**. Our worth is not based on what people think about us. Our **worth** is based on what **God says about us**.

ON TV: Who does God say we are?

ON TV/OUTLINE: “You are a **new creation** in Christ Jesus. The old is gone and the new has come!” 2 Corinthians 5:17

ON TV/OUTLINE: “In Him, we have **redemption** through His blood, the **forgiveness** of sins, in accordance with the **riches of God’s grace**...” Ephesians 1:7

ON TV/OUTLINE: “You are more than a **conqueror** through Christ who loved us.” Romans 8:37

ON TV/OUTLINE: “You are the light of the world...” Matthew 5:14a

ON TV/OUTLINE: “And if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also **give life to your mortal bodies** through His Spirit, who lives in you.” Romans 8:11

ON TV/OUTLINE: Your **STORY** matters.

ON TV/OUTLINE: “You are **God’s masterpiece**, created in Christ Jesus to good, which God prepared **in advance** for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10

ON TV: He is **rewriting** parts of our story so it can have a tremendous benefit for somebody else.

ON TV: We are not too **messed up** to **matter**.

ON TV: “People may be attracted to your strengths, but they will **connect with your weaknesses.**” – Mike Foster

ON TV/OUTLINE: We no longer need to be **ASHAMED** of the purpose for which God made us.

ON TV/OUTLINE: “You saw me before I was born. **Every day** of my life **was recorded** in your book. **Every moment** was laid out before a single day had passed.” Psalm 139:15

ON TV/OUTLINE: We will choose to be **HONEST** about our obstacles and opportunities.

ON TV: We **can’t** be anything we want to be. We can only be who **God made us to be**.

ON TV/OUTLINE: “I pray that the **eyes of your heart** may be enlightened in order that you **may know the hope to which he has called you**...” Ephesians 1:18a

ON TV:

- **HONESTY**
- **HUMILITY**
- **HELP**

ON TV/OUTLINE: “Come to me, all of you who are **weary** and carry **heavy burdens** and I will give you **rest.**” Matthew 11:28

ON TV/OUTLINE: “**Do not conform** any longer to the pattern of this world, but be **transformed** by the **renewing of your mind**...” Romans 12:2a

ON TV/OUTLINE: “Therefore, I urge you brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, *to offer your bodies*, as *living sacrifices*, holy and pleasing to God--this is your spiritual acts of *worship*.” Romans 12:1