

Fear Not—2
Afraid of What People Think About Me

Obsessing about what people think about you is the quickest way to forget what God thinks about you.

This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 1:18 NIV

Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly. Matthew 1:19 NIV

Pleasing God often means disappointing people.

But after [Joseph] had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.” Matthew 1:20-21 NIV

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How Do We Live for God Instead of People?

1. If you're not ready to be criticized for your obedience to God, you're not ready to be used by God.

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

Those who make the biggest difference often endure the greatest pain.

2. Extraordinary acts of God often start with ordinary acts of obedience.

Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path.

Psalm 119:105 NIV

You have no idea what God might do through one single act of obedience.

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. Matthew 1:24 NIV

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