

THIS IS MY BIBLE, I AM WHAT IT SAYS I AM,  
I CAN DO WHAT IT SAYS I CAN DO.  
I AM A BELIEVER, AND NOT A DOUBTER,  
A DOER AND NOT JUST A HEARER, AND  
MY LIFE IS THE BETTER AFTER HEARING,  
OBEYING, AND APPLYING A  
WORD FROM THE LORD.

# 1 SAMUEL 2:27 NIV

<sup>27</sup> NOW A MAN OF GOD CAME TO ELI AND SAID TO HIM, "THIS IS WHAT THE LORD SAYS: 'DID I NOT CLEARLY REVEAL MYSELF TO YOUR ANCESTOR'S FAMILY WHEN THEY WERE IN EGYPT UNDER PHARAOH?"

# 1 SAMUEL 2:28 NIV

<sup>28</sup> I CHOSE YOUR ANCESTOR OUT OF ALL THE TRIBES OF ISRAEL TO BE MY PRIEST, TO GO UP TO MY ALTAR, TO BURN INCENSE, AND TO WEAR AN EPHOD IN MY PRESENCE. I ALSO GAVE YOUR ANCESTOR'S FAMILY ALL THE FOOD OFFERINGS PRESENTED BY THE ISRAELITES.



# 1 SAMUEL 2:29 NIV

<sup>29</sup> WHY DO YOU SCORN MY SACRIFICE AND OFFERING THAT I PRESCRIBED FOR MY DWELLING? WHY DO YOU HONOR YOUR SONS MORE THAN ME BY FATTENING YOURSELVES ON THE CHOICE PARTS OF EVERY OFFERING MADE BY MY PEOPLE ISRAEL?'

## 1 SAMUEL 2:30 NIV

<sup>30</sup> “THEREFORE THE LORD, THE GOD OF ISRAEL, DECLARES: ‘I PROMISED THAT MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY WOULD MINISTER BEFORE ME FOREVER.’ BUT NOW THE LORD DECLARES: ‘FAR BE IT FROM ME! THOSE WHO HONOR ME I WILL HONOR, BUT THOSE WHO DESPISE ME WILL BE DISDAINED.’

WHEN  
**PEOPLE**  
ARE BIG



Overcoming Peer Pressure,  
Codependency, and the Fear of Man

EDWARD T. WELCH

SARAH WAS A THREE-SPORT STAR AT ONE OF THE BEST COLLEGES IN THE COUNTRY. NOT ONLY THAT, SHE WAS THE SOPHOMORE CAPTAIN OF ALL THREE TEAMS, AND SHE HAD JUST BEEN NAMED CO-WINNER OF THE COLLEGE'S BEST FEMALE ATHLETE AWARD.

EDWARD WELCH, "WHEN PEOPLE ARE BIG AND GOD IS SMALL"

WITH SUCH ABILITY AND RECOGNITION,  
YOU WOULD THINK THAT SHE WAS  
FEELING PRETTY GOOD ABOUT HERSELF,  
BUT SHE WAS ALREADY WORRIED ABOUT  
NEXT YEAR. THE EXPECTATIONS OF  
OTHERS WERE GOING TO BE EVEN  
GREATER.

EDWARD WELCH, "WHEN PEOPLE ARE BIG AND GOD IS SMALL"



HOW COULD SHE TOP WHAT SHE HAD ALREADY ACCOMPLISHED? "SHE SAID SHE WANTED TO BE THE BEST GIRLFRIEND, THE BEST ATHLETE, THE BEST STUDENT," RELATED A GOOD FRIEND. SHE WANTED TO QUIT ONE OF HER SPORTS TO ALLEVIATE SOME OF THE OVERWHELMING STRESS IN HER LIFE,

EDWARD WELCH, "WHEN PEOPLE ARE BIG AND GOD IS SMALL"

BUT SHE WAS AFRAID TO DISAPPOINT HER TEAMMATES. SAYING "NO" TO ANY FRIEND WAS OUT OF THE QUESTION. "SHE WANTED TO PLEASE EVERYBODY AND COULDN'T STOP," ONE PERSON OBSERVED. SHE COULD ONLY THINK OF ONE WAY OUT.

EDWARD WELCH, "WHEN PEOPLE ARE BIG AND GOD IS SMALL"

SARAH TOOK A .22-CALIBER  
RIFLE AND SHOT HERSELF IN THE  
CHEST. PEOPLE HAD BECOME  
SARAH'S IDOL. SHE NEEDED THEIR  
APPROVAL. SHE NEEDED THEIR  
FRIENDSHIP, AND SHE FELT UTTERLY  
SUFFOCATED *BY THE POSSIBILITY  
OF DISAPPOINTING THEM.*

EDWARD WELCH, "WHEN PEOPLE ARE BIG AND GOD IS SMALL"

THE TRAGIC REALITY WAS THAT  
SARAH WAS A SLAVE TO HER  
IDOL OF *PEOPLE-PLEASING*,  
AND TRAGEDY OFTEN  
ACCOMPANIES SUCH SLAVERY.  
SARAH SAW NO OTHER WAY  
TO FREEDOM.

EDWARD WELCH, "WHEN PEOPLE ARE BIG AND GOD IS SMALL"



# **PEOPLE-PLEASERS**

CHARACTERIZED BY THE INTENT  
TO SATISFY THE DESIRES OF  
PEOPLE RATHER THAN GOD.

# PEOPLE-PLEASERS

THE WILLINGNESS TO PRIORITIZE THE  
FEELINGS AND EXPECTATIONS OF  
OTHERS BECAUSE OF THE THREAT OF:

1. *PHYSICAL HARM AND OPPRESSION,*
2. *EXPOSURE AND HUMILIATION, OR*
3. *REJECTION AND RIDICULE.*

## GALATIANS 1:10 NIV

<sup>10</sup> 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.**

NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR

**KAREN EHMAN**

When Making  
Others *Happy*  
Is Making You  
*Miserable*

HOW TO BREAK THE PATTERN  
OF PEOPLE PLEASING AND  
CONFIDENTLY LIVE YOUR LIFE

FOREWORD BY LISA TERKEURST





# **SPIRITUAL WHOLENESS**

A PLACE OF SATISFACTION WITH WHO GOD IS IN YOUR LIFE, WHAT HE HAS IN STORE FOR YOU, AND WHEN HIS WILL IS TO EXECUTE HIS PLAN.

# 1 SAMUEL 2:12–13 ESV

<sup>12</sup> NOW THE SONS OF ELI WERE WORTHLESS MEN. THEY DID NOT KNOW THE LORD.

<sup>13</sup> THE CUSTOM OF THE PRIESTS WITH THE PEOPLE WAS THAT WHEN ANY MAN OFFERED SACRIFICE, THE PRIEST'S SERVANT WOULD COME, WHILE THE MEAT WAS BOILING, WITH A THREE-PRONGED FORK IN HIS HAND,

# 1 SAMUEL 2:14–15 ESV

<sup>14</sup> AND HE WOULD THRUST IT INTO THE PAN OR KETTLE OR CAULDRON OR POT. ALL THAT THE FORK BROUGHT UP THE PRIEST WOULD TAKE FOR HIMSELF.

**THIS IS WHAT THEY DID AT SHILOH TO ALL THE ISRAELITES WHO CAME THERE.**

<sup>15</sup> MOREOVER, BEFORE THE FAT WAS BURNED, THE PRIEST'S SERVANT WOULD COME AND SAY TO THE MAN WHO WAS SACRIFICING, "GIVE MEAT FOR THE PRIEST TO ROAST, FOR HE WILL NOT ACCEPT BOILED MEAT FROM YOU BUT ONLY RAW."

## **1 SAMUEL 2:16–17 ESV**

<sup>16</sup> AND IF THE MAN SAID TO HIM, “LET THEM BURN THE FAT FIRST, AND THEN TAKE AS MUCH AS YOU WISH,” HE WOULD SAY, “NO, YOU MUST GIVE IT NOW, AND IF NOT, I WILL TAKE IT BY FORCE.”

<sup>17</sup> **THUS THE SIN OF THE YOUNG MEN WAS VERY GREAT IN THE SIGHT OF THE LORD,** FOR THE MEN TREATED THE OFFERING OF THE LORD WITH CONTEMPT.



THE **FAT** WAS THOUGHT TO BE THE MOST LUXURIOUS, BEST PART OF THE ANIMAL, SO THEY GAVE IT TO GOD. THE IDEA WAS THAT GOD SHOULD ALWAYS GET THE BEST, AND GOD SHOULD GET HIS PORTION FIRST.

BUT IN THEIR PRIDE, THE SONS OF ELI TOOK THEIR PORTION **BEFORE THEY BURNED THE FAT**. THE GREED OF ELI'S SONS WAS SO BAD THAT THEY DID NOT HESITATE TO USE VIOLENCE AND THE THREAT OF VIOLENCE TO GET WHAT THEY WANTED.

DAVID GUZIK, [1 SAMUEL](#), COMMENTARIES ON THE BIBLE

THE GREATNESS OF THE SIN OF ELI'S SONS WAS CLEAR BECAUSE THROUGH THEIR GREED, VIOLENCE, AND INTIMIDATION **THEY MADE OTHERS NOT WANT TO COME AND BRING OFFERINGS TO THE LORD.**

IT WAS BAD ENOUGH WHAT THEY THEMSELVES DID; BUT THE GREATER SIN OF ELI'S SONS WAS IN HOW THEY HURT OTHER PEOPLE.

DAVID GUZIK, [1 SAMUEL](#), COMMENTARIES ON THE BIBLE

# 1 SAMUEL 2:22–23 NIV

<sup>22</sup> NOW ELI, WHO WAS VERY OLD, HEARD ABOUT EVERYTHING HIS SONS WERE DOING TO ALL ISRAEL AND HOW THEY SLEPT WITH THE WOMEN WHO SERVED AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE TENT OF MEETING.

<sup>23</sup> SO **HE SAID TO THEM**, “WHY DO YOU DO SUCH THINGS? I HEAR FROM ALL THE PEOPLE ABOUT THESE WICKED DEEDS OF YOURS.

# 1 SAMUEL 2:24–25A NIV

<sup>24</sup> NO, MY SONS; THE REPORT I HEAR  
SPREADING AMONG THE LORD'S PEOPLE IS  
NOT GOOD.

<sup>25</sup> IF ONE PERSON SINS AGAINST ANOTHER,  
GOD MAY MEDIATE FOR THE OFFENDER;  
BUT IF ANYONE SINS AGAINST THE LORD,  
WHO WILL INTERCEDE FOR THEM?"



# 1 SAMUEL 3:13 NIV

<sup>13</sup> FOR I TOLD HIM THAT I WOULD JUDGE HIS FAMILY FOREVER BECAUSE OF THE SIN HE KNEW ABOUT; HIS SONS BLASPHEMED GOD, **AND HE FAILED TO RESTRAIN THEM.**

# 1 SAMUEL 2:29B NIV

**WHY DO YOU HONOR YOUR SONS MORE THAN ME** BY FATTENING YOURSELVES ON THE CHOICE PARTS OF EVERY OFFERING MADE BY MY PEOPLE ISRAEL?'

# **SPIRITUAL WHOLENESS**

A PLACE OF SATISFACTION WITH WHO GOD IS IN YOUR LIFE, WHAT HE HAS IN STORE FOR YOU, AND WHEN HIS WILL IS TO EXECUTE HIS PLAN.

## **Gregg's Personal Mission Statement**

I add value to the lives of people through words that build as well as challenge, through considerate actions that can be modeled, and through a presence that is genuine and tangible.

## **Gregg's Core Values**

**Time With God** - Involving him in every aspect of my life.

**Family** - Committed to protecting, providing, and loving.

**Ministry Calling** - Faithfully executing every assignment.

**Personal Health** - Ensuring mental stability and physical care.