

The Problem

Fear of man

Scripture

Prov 16:7; 29:25; Matt 23; John 12:41-43; Rom 12:10; Gal 1:10; 1 Thess 2:4-6

Insight From the Text

- The fear of man is a snare which will catch you and kill you
- We cannot live to please man; no matter how hard we try we will never please everyone
- We must live to please God and fear Him at all times
- The Pharisees lived to please man and Jesus rebuked them; we cannot live as they did
- When we seek to please God, even our enemies will be at peace with us
- We are to be others focused

What I Need to Put Off

- Living for what pleases the world (friends, spouse, parents, teacher, etc.) especially when it means you must compromise and violate Scripture
- Dressing a certain way to fit in
- Spending money on things that will help you become noticed and appreciated
- Doing whatever it takes to be popular; focusing on your self
- Being controlled by and becoming a part of the world and all its desires

What I Need to Put On

- Fear God and keep His commandments
- You are not a slave to the world (to sin) but to God so glorify God in all that you do
- Spend your money and dress in such a way that honors the Lord
- Seek to love and serve others rather than loving self

How Will I Change?

- Read the verses above and memorize Prov 29:25 and Rom 12:10 and Gal 1:10; pray these back to God asking Him to change you
- Read *Pleasing People* by Lou Priolo or *When People are Big and God is Small* by Ed Welch
- Repent of your enslavement to fear of man and self-centered thinking and begin thinking of ways you can serve others and honor the Lord by fearing Him