



*"It is a dangerous trap to be concerned with what others think of you, but if you trust the Lord, you are safe." Proverbs 29:25 (TEV)*

### WHY TRYING TO PLEASE EVERYONE IS A TRAP

1. It causes me to MISS GOD'S PURPOSE for me.

*"Our purpose is to please God, not people. He is the one who examines the motives of our hearts." 1 Thessalonians 2:4b (NLT)*

2. It keeps me from GROWING IN MY FAITH.

*"You try to get praise from each other, but you do not try to get the praise that comes from the only God. So how can you believe?" John 5:44 (NCV)*

3. It leads me to SIN.

*"Do not follow the crowd in doing wrong!" Exodus 23:2a (NIV)*

*Saul gave in and confessed, "I've sinned. I've trampled roughshod over God's Word and your instructions. I cared more about pleasing people. I let them tell me what to do." 1 Samuel 15:24 (MSG)*

4. It causes HYPOCRISY in my life.

*Jesus: "You make yourselves look good in other people's eyes but God knows your hearts." Luke 16:15a (TEV)*

*"You may brag about yourself, but the only approval that counts is the Lord's approval." 2 Cor.10:18 (CEV)*

5. It silences my WITNESS.

*"No one had the courage to speak favorably about [Jesus] in public, for they were afraid of getting in trouble with the ... leaders." John 7:13 (NLT)*

*"Many people, including leaders, believed in Jesus. But they wouldn't talk about it publicly out of their fear that the Pharisees would expel them from the synagogue. They loved human approval more than they loved the approval of God." John 12:42-43 (NIV84)*