



“Am I now trying to win the approval of men, or of God?
Or am I trying to please men? If I were still trying to please
people, I would not be a servant of Christ.”

SERVING: _____

PLEASING: _____

(Lots of energy, not going anywhere.)

If you live to please people – you will never _____.

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-

If you live to please God – you will never _____.

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1 Thessalonians 5:14-24 - **PLEASING GOD**

Motivate the idle, the scared, and the weak.

Be _____

Be _____

Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all
circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

Galatians 6:4-10 - **TEST YOUR OWN ACTIONS**

Give up trying to _____

Get going looking for _____



ENCOUNTER GROUPS

Spiritual Growth Small Groups at Emmanuel Reformed Church

Getting Started

How focused on fashion, trends or “the latest” are you?

Sunday’s Message

Review the main points of the sermon together. What was most important to you personally from the message? What raised questions or ideas you would like to discuss?

Of all the people of the world, in whose eyes do you want to “look good”? Is this good or bad? Why?

How do the thoughts of others impact the decisions you make? Clothes? Cars? Activities? Spiritually? Food? Fun? Career?

How do you balance the expectations of others, what you naturally want, and the desires of God for your life?

Going Deeper

Read **Romans 12:9-21** – It is direct, practical advice on living together in faith. Of the many things to do in the list (*there are over 25*), which three are the biggest challenge for you? Which come most naturally for you?

What can you do to grow in these items of service to others?

How have you been doing in asking these questions when facing small or large challenges?

What is good in this situation?

What can I learn from this?

What can I do now?

Where am I going?

Application

Who can you help motivate to do good?

How will that require your patience and kindness?