

Series: Be Free Week 2: Freedom from People Pleasing
Galatians 2:11-14; 19-21
Small Group Discussion Guide

Icebreaker

What is one thing you used to worry about that now seems unimportant?

Discussion Questions

Can you identify a relationship or experience that shaped your desire for approval? How has that influenced your life today?

When have you found yourself changing your behavior because you were worried about what others might think of you?

- What was driving that fear?
- How did it affect your decisions?

Peter knew the truth of the gospel but acted differently when certain people arrived.

- Why do you think fear of disapproval can be so powerful, even for mature believers?
- What does Peter's example teach us about ourselves?
- How can our actions as individuals or the Church make others feel unwelcome/less valued?
- How can we change that behavior to show the grace of God yet still be true to the truth of what Jesus taught?

Paul confronted Peter because the truth of the gospel was at stake.

- Have you ever had to choose between pleasing people and doing what you believed was right?
- What was difficult about that situation?

How can we recognize when the desire to be liked has become unhealthy? What are some warning signs you can see/have seen in your own life.

What is the difference between loving people and pleasing people? Why is that distinction important?

"I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I now live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20.

- What does this mean in practice? How might this truth change the way we make decisions or view ourselves?

The mirror in the youth room says, "This is the face of someone Jesus loves.

- What makes it difficult to truly believe that God's love and acceptance are already secure in Christ?
- Any experiences you've had that made that truth harder/easier to accept?
- What are some things we can do to help remember that truth?

What is one practical step you can take this week to focus more on God's approval than on the approval of others?