

SERMON NOTES

Date: January 28, 2018

Series: Messy Church

Title: Keeping Your Quest for Approval in Check

Text: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Big Idea: We're often very concerned with what people think of us, but it's what God thinks that should matter most.

MAKE IT REAL

Questions for Personal Application and Small Group Discussion

REVIEW THE SERMON

How do you want to be regarded at the end of your life? What kind of epitaph do you hope to have written about you? _____

Read 1 Corinthians 4:1-5. What does it mean to be regarded by others as a servant and steward? _____

How does God define success (v. 2)? _____

Why should God's opinion of you matter more than the opinions of others (v. 5)? _____

ASSESS YOUR LIFE

Evaluating your faithfulness can be difficult if you have the wrong standards. What faulty standards do you tend to use most (functions, formulas, feelings, feedback, fantasy, others)? _____

What is a biblical standard you can use to evaluate your faithfulness? How should this help you find freedom from being a slave to the approval of others? _____

APPLY THE TRUTH

Think of a person in your life from whom you desire approval? How do you want them to regard you? How do your desires make you a slave to them instead of a servant of Christ? _____

How can you view this relationship in terms of being a servant of Christ and a steward of his word? _____

COMMIT THIS WEEK

Are you living with a violated conscience, especially in your relationships with others? Commit to bringing that before the Lord in repentance and faith. Is there someone you need to share that with for practical reconciliation, accountability, or help? _____