

How to Face A Challenge

Week Two: Perception



When faced with a decision to please God instead of man, it's challenging to put aside our fears of how other people might perceive us. There are many different ways we respond or deal with our fear of man's opinion of us. Often, we can let other people dictate our actions and cause us to be insincere and insecure. However, when we begin to trust God instead of fearing man, we can be secure, sincere, and motivated from a pure heart to do all He's asking us to do.

Introspect

- Would you say that you struggle with what people think of you? Why or why not?
- How does our perception of the way people view us affect the way we live our lives?

Investigate

“He said to them, “Then render to Caesar the things that are Caesar’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” Luke 20:25 (ESV)

Read Luke 20:19-26

- Why were the scribes and chief priests so afraid of the people?
- How did Jesus handle the conversation and their fear of him?

“So we can confidently say, ‘The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?’” Hebrews 13:6 (ESV)

Read Hebrews 13:5-8

- How can being content with what we have enable us to overcome any insecurities?
- How does trusting God eliminate insecurities?

Incorporate

- Examine your motives. Why do you do the things that you do? Do you have an image to maintain? Why or why not?
- How might maintaining your image distract you from doing what God has called you to do? Is there any part of your life where you fear man or circumstances? Share with your group. Also, read **Proverbs 29:25**.
- What would it look like to worry less about pleasing people and focus our hearts and minds towards pleasing God?
- What part do we play in helping other people let go of their insecurities?

Investment

- During the Reach series we talked about “owning our assignment.” Have you found your place to serve within the church? There is a place for each of us. See www.covechurch.org/volunteering.
- In addition, we are also reaching out locally (OutREACH), meeting needs and “introducing our friends to Jesus.” Where can you, and maybe even your Life Group together, begin or continue your efforts outside of our four walls? See www.covechurch.org/serve locally.

