

Who Do We Live For? - Week 8 Sermon Notes

1. Who Are You Living to Impress?

(1 Peter 4:1-2)

<u>1 Peter 4:1-2</u> – "Therefore, since Christ suffered in His body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because whoever suffers in the body is done with sin. As a result, they do not live the rest of their earthly lives for evil human desires, but rather for the will of God."

<u>Galatians 1:10</u> – "Am I now trying to win the approval of human beings, or of God? Or am I trying to please people? If I were still trying to please people, I would not be a servant of Christ."

Proverbs 29:25 - "Fear of man will prove to be a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is kept safe."

Reflection Question: Who is driving your decisions right now—self, others, or God?

2. Two Contrasting Lifestyles

(1 Peter 4:3-7)

- <u>1 Peter 4:3</u> "For you have spent enough time in the past doing what pagans choose to do—living in debauchery, lust, drunkenness, orgies, carousing, and detestable idolatry."
- 1 Peter 4:7 "The end of all things is near. Therefore be alert and of sober mind so that you may pray."

Ecclesiastes 3:11 – "He has made everything beautiful in its time. He has also set eternity in the human heart; yet no one can fathom what God has done from beginning to end."

<u>Matthew 6:19-21</u> – "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

Action Step: Write down one specific goal this week to live for God's will (prayer, service, obedience).

3. How to Handle Trials When Living for God

(1 Peter 4:12-19)

1 Peter 4:12-13, 16, 19 – "Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when His glory is revealed... If you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name... So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good."

<u>John 16:33</u> – "I have told you these things, so that in Me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

Job 1:21 - "The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised."

Acts 5:41 – "The apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name."

Romans 8:28 – "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."

Action Step: Write down one current hardship and pair it with Romans 8:28 or 1 Peter 4:19 to remind yourself that God is working for your good.

4. Three Practical Steps to Live for an Audience of One

Step 1: Daily Surrender Psalm 139:23-24 – "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my anxious thoughts. See if there is any offensive way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting."

Action: Start each morning with this prayer: "Lord, how can I please You today?"

Step 2: Community Support Ecclesiastes 4:9-10 – "Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor: If either of them falls down, one can help the other up. But pity anyone who falls and has no one to help them up."

Action: Find someone this week to pray with and hold you accountable to live for God's will.

Step 3: Trust in Trials Philippians 4:13 – "I can do all this through Him who gives me strength."

Action: Keep your hardship + Scripture visible as a daily reminder to trust God.

Weekly Challenge

Pray the surrender prayer every morning. Meet with a friend for accountability. Memorize a verse to hold onto in storms.

Closing Challenge

Who are you living to impress?

This week, choose to live for an Audience of One—God Himself—and watch how it changes the way you face life's storms.