



DISCUSSION GUIDE

- Icebreaker -

It's summer, the sun is shining, you've got fireworks ready to set off, your grill is hot, your ice cream is cold in the cooler. What do you put on your hot dog? Alien Hot Sauce, "Get to the Chopper Ranch" or Arby's Horsey Sauce?

1. How have you, or someone close to you, gotten stung by trying to please people?
2. How does our cultural preoccupation with ourselves differ from God's highest priority for us as Jesus followers? Read [Matthew 22:34-36](#)
3. What are some areas in your life where you need to put God back into first place? How can we hold each other accountable in these areas?
4. What/who is God's second priority for us in [Matthew 22:39-40](#), and what are some ways we can live this out in practical ways with our neighbors? (Be honest, how many of our neighbors would be in shock if this happened?!)
5. How are our own me-centered worlds out of sync with God's plan for us? Read [Galatians 1:10](#), [Proverbs 29:25](#) and [Colossians 3:2](#).
6. What are three tangible steps you can and will take this week to get on track with God's priorities?

Day One: [Psalm 30](#)

Day Two: [Proverbs 30](#)

Day Three: [Judges 6](#)

Day Four: [Isaiah 30](#)

Day Five: [Acts 2](#)

This Personal Guide has been adapted from Professor Grant Horner's Bible Reading System.

PERSONAL GUIDE



Your story matters.

PASTOR TOM LUNDEEN

AUGUST 7, 2022

HOW'S MY DRIVING?



MYRC.CHURCH



"HOW'S MY DRIVING?"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

MESSAGE NOTES

The reality is that every single person...is _____ by something.
_____ = to guide, control, direct.

...way too many of us are driven by the _____ need for approval.

We allow the _____ of others to control our lives.
If you follow the wrong crowd/group, you usually get _____ in it.
A certain key to fail in life is trying to _____ everyone.

When we're _____ with the approval of others, then:

1. Our Main Life Priority Gets _____

Note [Matthew 22:34-36](#)

In 2021, "#selfie" was used _____ times...
"#Jesus" wasn't in the top _____ hashtags in 2021.

Note [Matthew 22:37-38](#)

Loving God (not *phileo* = friendly affection, _____ love; but *agapao* = choosing for the _____ good of another...).
When we're focused/obsessed with being approved by others...living a life of unreserved love and commitment for God becomes _____.

When we're preoccupied with being "liked" and approved of, we have broken priorities and a _____ focus of what really matters.
Having others' approval driving and controlling our lives is spiritually _____.

It's not that we shouldn't try to get along with others or have people like us.
But having God as our first priority will help us be in a spiritually _____, more balanced place.

2. We Become _____

Note [Matthew 22:39-40](#)

_____ = one who wears a mask, plays a part.

Note [Matthew 23:5-7, 12, 25-28](#)

...despite our claims to wanting _____, Millennials were at the forefront of developing the *selfie culture*, and all other generations have embraced it to various extents, and social media has created for many of us an engine that requires the _____ of approval to every video, photo, or post that we make.

Are we _____ approval and affirmation? (Stone)

Note [Galatians 1:10](#); [Proverbs 29:25](#); [Colossians 3:23](#)

WHAT'S DRIVING ME?:

- God wants us to be free from living for the *likes* of others and trying to manage an image of ourselves, and instead to be able to live because of the _____ of His love.
- Honesty about ourselves frees us from our identity being wrapped up in how many people are following us and is instead found in _____ we are following.
- Jesus loves you; and proved it on the cross.
- Let His _____ drive your life.

Tell someone about the next step you took today in your spiritual journey!
Let us know, too, and fill out our connect card (digital* or hard copy).

*[MyRC.link/connect](#) or text **riverside** to **94000**



SMALL GROUP
guide on the back



"HOW'S MY DRIVING?"

Pastor Tom Lundeen

MESSAGE NOTES

The reality is that every single person...is driven by something.

Drive = to guide, control, direct.

...way too many of us are driven by the unhealthy need for approval.

We allow the expectations of others to control our lives.

If you follow the wrong crowd/group, you usually get lost in it.

A certain key to fail in life is trying to please everyone.

When we're preoccupied with the approval of others, then:

1. Our Main Life Priority Gets Distorted

Note [Matthew 22:34-36](#)

In 2021, "#selfie" was used 422.6 million times...

"#Jesus" wasn't in the top 50 hashtags in 2021.

Note [Matthew 22:37-38](#)

Loving God (not *phileo* = friendly affection, brotherly love; but *agapao* = choosing for the highest good of another...).

When we're focused/obsessed with being approved by others...living a life of unreserved love and commitment for God becomes impossible.

When we're preoccupied with being "liked" and approved of, we have broken priorities and a blurred focus of what really matters.

Having others' approval driving and controlling our lives is spiritually debilitating.

It's not that we shouldn't try to get along with others or have people like us. But having God as our first priority will help us be in a spiritually healthier, more balanced place.

2. We Become Me-Centered

Note [Matthew 22:39-40](#)

Hypocrisy = one who wears a mask, plays a part.

Note [Matthew 23:5-7, 12, 25-28](#)

...despite our claims to wanting authenticity, Millennials were at the forefront of developing the selfie culture, and all other generations have embraced it to various extents, and social media has created for many of us an engine that requires the fuel of approval to every video, photo, or post that we make.

Are we crowdsourcing approval and affirmation? (Stone)

Note [Galatians 1:10](#); [Proverbs 29:25](#); [Colossians 3:23](#)

WHAT'S DRIVING ME?:

- God wants us to be free from living for the *likes* of others and trying to manage an image of ourselves, and instead to be able to live because of the approval of His love.
- Honesty about ourselves frees us from our identity being wrapped up in how many people are following us and is instead found in Who we are following.
- Jesus loves you; and proved it on the cross.
- Let His approval drive your life.

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