

**We Have Issues, God Has Answers: People Pleasing**  
**Sermon # 7, Isaiah 2:22; Matthew 10:28; 14:1-11**

**Main Point:** *Live for the audience of One.*

**Getting to Know You**

1. How would you define what it means to be a 'people pleaser'?
2. On the following scale, how much of a people pleaser are you?  
"I want everyone to like me!" ----- "Some will like me, some will not."----- "I don't care!"

**Getting into the Book:**

**Read Matthew 14:1-11**

3. What evidence is there that Herod feared man rather than God? What evidence is there that John the Baptist feared God rather than man?

**Read Proverbs 29:25**

4. In what practical ways can the fear of man trap us?

**Read Isaiah 2:22 and Matthew 10:28**

5. What does God say about the fear of man? Why should we fear God and not man?

**Read 1 Corinthians 4:1-4**

6. How can we keep others' opinions of us in perspective? To what specific situation can you apply this principle?

**Read Revelation 4:8-11**

7. How does having a proper understanding of who God is help us with the issue of 'people-pleasing'? What steps will you take to grow in your understanding of God?

**Getting Out There**

8. What aspect of people pleasing do you struggle with most? For instance, not saying 'no,' avoiding conflict, seeking approval from others, etc.
9. Thinking of specific examples from Jesus' life, how did He show Himself to fear God rather than people?
10. How can you help each other fear God more and fear man less?

**Pray**

Confess your people pleasing tendencies to God. Ask Him to develop in you the character of Christ, so He has first place in your life.