

MESSAGE OUTLINE

SUNDAY, January 29, 2023



הקהילה מתקדמת
CHURCH

10:30am Sunday 13095 Publishers Drive, Fishers

Today's Message: **ACCEPTED OR REJECTED**
Luke 4:23-44
Pastor Gary Stump

Don't we all want to be accepted? What lengths will we go to be accepted ...to fit in? What is it in our character that craves being included, accepted? Is it Self-doubt; Fear of judgment; Fear of being a disappointment; Feelings of guilt for letting others down?

- Do you change your actions based on fear of how another may react?
- Do you struggle with setting boundaries, being direct, or communicating truthfully?
- Do you inadvertently lie or omit the truth when speaking to someone, due to fear of their response or opinion?
- Do you let others' opinions dictate what choices you make? *

* Article in Psychology Today by Hannah Rose

Doesn't social media exaggerate our seeking approval from others?

"Queen of social chameleons, I mastered the art of telling people what they wanted to hear and being someone they would find impressive—all the while worrying incessantly about what others thought of me, fearing criticism, and holding myself back as a result." –Sacha Crouch, psychologist

Jesus can show us how to deal with being accepted or rejected!

Luke 4:23–30 (NLT) Then he said, "You will undoubtedly quote me this proverb: 'Physician, heal yourself'—meaning, 'Do miracles here in your hometown like those you did in Capernaum.'²⁴ But I tell you the truth, no prophet is accepted in his own hometown.²⁵ "Certainly there were many needy widows in Israel in Elijah's time, when the heavens were closed for three and a half years, and a severe famine devastated the land.²⁶ Yet Elijah was not sent to any of them. He was sent instead to a foreigner—a widow of Zarephath in the land of Sidon.²⁷ And many in Israel had leprosy in the time of the prophet Elisha, but the only one healed was Naaman, a Syrian."²⁸ When they heard this, the people in the synagogue were furious.²⁹ Jumping up, they mobbed him and forced him to the edge of the hill on which the town was built. They intended to push him over the cliff,³⁰ but he passed right through the crowd and went on his way.

Jesus understood He was rejected (hated) by many

John 15:18, 23-25 (NLT) "If the world hates you, remember that it hated me first...²³ Anyone who hates me also hates my Father.²⁴ If I hadn't done such miraculous signs among them that no one else could do, they would not be guilty. But as it is, they have seen everything I did, yet they still hate me and my Father.²⁵ This fulfills what is written in their Scriptures: 'They hated me without cause.'"

Do you fear people?

Proverbs 29:25 (NLT) Fearing people is a dangerous trap, but trusting the LORD means safety.

Psalms 56:11 (NLT) I trust in God, so why should I be afraid? What can mere mortals do to me?

Matthew 6:1 (NLT) "Watch out! Don't do your good deeds publicly, to be admired by others, for you will lose the reward from your Father in heaven."

Public Self – Private Self – Secret Self *

- Your **public self** is a way that you have learned to *be* in the world so that you can manage, manipulate, and control the world to get what you want and need.
- Your **private self** is that person that is on display in your home behind closed doors.
- Your **secret self** is the one that only you know. It's the self-talk that you do when you mess up. It's the things you do that no one knows about. It's the judgments that you experience but don't express or the feelings that recur but never get exposed. It's also something that happened to you along the way that you never told anyone. It's the most secret part of who you are.

Self-Differentiation (Murray Bowen, MD) involves being able to possess and identify your own thoughts and feelings and distinguish them from others.

1. Solid sense of self
2. Seeking understanding rather than agreement
3. Ability to self-validate
4. Ability to self-soothe
5. Tolerating short-term pain for long-term growth

Jesus was totally “self-differentiated”

John 5:41, 44b (NLT) “Your approval means nothing to me...^{44b} For you gladly honor each other, but you don't care about the honor that comes from the one who alone is God.”

Matthew 10:28 (NLT) “Don't be afraid of those who want to kill your body; they cannot touch your soul. Fear only God, who can destroy both soul and body in hell.”

Isaiah 51:7, 12–13 (NLT) “Listen to me, you who know right from wrong, you who cherish my law in your hearts. Do not be afraid of people's scorn, nor fear their insults...¹² I, yes I, am the one who comforts you. So why are you afraid of mere humans, who wither like the grass and disappear?¹³ Yet you have forgotten the LORD, your Creator, the one who stretched out the sky like a canopy and laid the foundations of the earth. Will you remain in constant dread of human oppressors? Will you continue to fear the anger of your enemies? Where is their fury and anger now? It is gone!”

SO WHAT? Will you reject the fear of man?

Philippians 3:3b (NLT) We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort,

Deuteronomy 31:6 (ESV) “Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you.”

Will you be more authentic by learning how to integrate your public, private and secret selves into one coherent whole? *

- How often are you choosing to look good over being authentic?
- Where are you being inauthentic?
- What are you pretending?
- What is this hiding?
- What is the impact on you?
- What is the impact on others?
- Considering the impact on yourself and others, what values or core beliefs would inform how you would prefer to be in circumstances like this?
- How is this a victory over the past?
- What actions can you see to take that affirm your values and core beliefs?
- What two people can you share this with and when, specifically, will you do that?

Bring your fear of man into the light

1 John 1:7 (NLT) But if we are living in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from all sin.

Who are you trying to please? God or people?

Acts 5:28–29 (NLT) “We gave you strict orders never again to teach in this man’s name!” he said. “Instead, you have filled all Jerusalem with your teaching about him, and you want to make us responsible for his death!”²⁹ But Peter and the apostles replied, “We must obey God rather than any human authority.”

1 Thessalonians 2:4 (NLT) For we speak as messengers approved by God to be entrusted with the Good News. Our purpose is to please God, not people. He alone examines the motives of our hearts.

* *Faithwalking: A Transformational Journey* by Jim Herrington and Mission Houston



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ONWARD CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, January 29, 2023

1. WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS (Small Groups)—This Wednesday (1st & 3rd Wednesdays) 7:00-8:15pm.

2. MARRIAGE RETREAT THIS SATURDAY AND SUNDAY—Brown County Inn. Reservations must be made by calling Brown County Inn 1-800-772-5249. King rooms - \$116 per night; Queen rooms - \$107 per night. Please give Onward Church promo code 0642 when reserving. Rooms are limited and have been released. Make your reservation immediately.

2023 Onward Marriage Retreat Program

Speaker: Matthew A. Vander Wiele, Ed. D.

Theme: Exploring Famous Marriages from Scripture

Session 1: The Ideal of Marriage – Adam and Eve

Session 2: The Reality of Marriage – Abram and Sarai

Session 3: The Redemption and Restoration of Marriage – Jesus and the Church

Saturday, February 4th

Room Check-In	4:00 pm (maybe earlier)
Session 1	2:00pm – 3:30ish
Free Time/Dinner	4:00pm – 7:30pm
Session 2	7:30pm – 9:00ish

Sunday, February 5th

Room Checkout	Before Session
Session 3	9:30am–11:00ish
Free Time!	

Note:

- Light refreshments and snacks will be served at all sessions!
- Booklets provided!
- Bring – Bible, Journal, Pen and SPOUSE!!
- Have Fun!

3. LADIES BIBLE STUDY BEGINS WEDNESDAY @ 9:30am—Each Wednesday at Kathy Stump’s house (12928 Whitehaven Lane, Fishers). Studying the **Psalms** using David Helm’s One-to-One method to create excellent discussions.

4. 2023 ONWARD TO JERUSALEM BIBLE STUDY TOUR OCTOBER 20-31, 2023—Walk where Jesus walked and see the Bible come alive as Pastor Gary and our good friend Dr. Moshe Loewenthal lead us on this incredible tour. Estimated cost: \$3,950 per person (double occupancy).

5. MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP SUNDAY NIGHT 6-8PM Dinner provided. Study: “SALT: Creating Thirst.”

6. HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP EVERY OTHER WEDNESDAY—beginning this Wednesday 6-8pm at Cynthia Brown’s house (14079 Clifton Ct., Fishers).

7. SUMMER YOUTH CAMPS—High School (Grades 9-12) June 12-16. Middle School (Grades 6-8) June 21-25. See Pastor Jerry for more info.

8. PAL (“PARENTS OF ADDICTED LOVED ONES”) MEETING—This is for families of adult children dealing with substance addiction. Every Tuesday night, 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Free weekly meetings. Dr. Nancy Smith, facilitator. For more information, contact nancy1108smith@gmail.com or 317-508-8149.

9. ONWARD PRAYER RESPONSE CARD ONLINE—To make it easier for some, you can scan this QR code in order to complete your Prayer Response Card.

