

MSG: PLEASE

SCRIPTURE: Rom 15:1-9 NLT

SZN 1: RELATING LIKE JESUS

Romans 15:1-9 NLT

“We who are strong must be considerate of those who are sensitive about things like this. We must not just please ourselves. We should help others do what is right and build them up in the Lord. For even Christ didn’t live to please himself. As the Scriptures say, “The insults of those who insult you, O God, have fallen on me.” Such things were written in the Scriptures long ago to teach us. And the Scriptures give us hope and encouragement as we wait patiently for God’s promises to be fulfilled. May God, who gives this patience and encouragement, help you live in complete harmony with each other, as is fitting for followers of Christ Jesus. Then all of you can join together with one voice, giving praise and glory to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory. Remember that Christ came as a servant to the Jews to show that God is true to the promises he made to their ancestors. He also came so that the Gentiles might give glory to God for his mercies to them. That is what the psalmist meant when he wrote: “For this, I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing praises to your name.””

INTRO:

GOD IS TRUE TO HIS PROMISE

GOD RELATED TO US SO THAT WE COULD KNOW AND EXPERIENCE HIS MERCY

1. PLEASING OTHERS PLEASURES GOD

to please *aréskō* – properly, *satisfy* (make good on something, *LS*); hence to please, winning someone’s favor (affection, approval) because *meeting their expectation* (especially by being in moral *agreement*) with the idea of willing service rendered to others; hence almost: I serve.

This is not being a people pleaser, a push over, or phony .

Bear with: The idea isn’t really bearing *with*, but bearing *up* the weaker brother – supporting her with your superior strength.

I’M NOT TOLERATING YOU, I’M UNDERGIRDING YOU

Philippians 2:3-5 NLT

“Don’t be selfish; don’t try to impress others. Be humble, thinking of others as better than yourselves. Don’t look out only for your own interests, but take an interest in others, too. You must have the same attitude that Christ Jesus had.”

We must have hope, knowing we are doing what is right even when it is difficult.

Psalms 69:7 NLT

“For I endure insults for your sake; humiliation is written all over my face.”

Who are you being strong for?

Who are you being weak with?

2. SELF DENIAL REMOVES SELF DECEPTION

Luke 9:23-24 NASB

“And He was saying to them all, “If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross daily and follow Me. For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake, he is the one who will save it.”

James 1:22-25 NIV

“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.”

-We must be weary of deception to believe we are someone or somewhere that we are not.

-God can't mature us in areas of our life that we believe is already matured.

-Doing things that constantly keep me uncomfortable is a good practice for self-denial.

Self-Deception is normal for us. Self-Denial is abnormal.

-We need the Holy Spirit to assist us. Our connection to Him to willingly, lay our lives down regularly. Corrects the fun house mirror.

“You better not leave this house lookin like that”

"Let's Do it" Question...

-WHY do I respond this way?

-WHY do I have a difficult time listening well?

-Why do I constantly have to “put people on”?

-Why do I get so angry, so often, so easily?

3. SELF-ACCEPTANCE ENABLES ACCEPTING OTHERS

Romans 15:7-9 NLT

“Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory. Remember that Christ came as a servant to the Jews to show that God is true to the promises he made to their ancestors. He also came so that the Gentiles might give glory to God for his mercies to them. That is what the psalmist meant when he wrote: “For this, I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing praises to your name.””

YOU ARE ACCEPTED BY JESUS.

- Accepting His grace towards us is foundational & essential to fulling "Relate Like Jesus".
- It's impossible to accept others if we have not allowed ourselves to be accepted by the Father.
- Dysfunctional Conflict, strife and constant drama is a red flag.
- This radical acceptance opens up the opportunity to lovingly accept others.

AIM TO PLEASE.