

*Fearing people is a dangerous trap, but trusting the Lord means safety. Proverbs 29:25 NLT*

*This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement quietly.*

*As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. “Joseph, son of David,” the angel said, “do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. Matthew 1:18-20 NLT*

### How to Overcome the Fear of Disapproval:

*Our purpose is to please God, not people. He is the one who examines the motives of our hearts. 1 Thessalonians 2:4 NLT*

1. \_\_\_\_\_ my focus on what others think of me.

*“But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself.” 1 Corinthians 4:3 NKJV*

2. \_\_\_\_\_ my focus on what God thinks of me.

*So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God. Romans 14:12 NIV*

• \_\_\_\_\_ God.

*So do not be afraid of people . . . 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. Matthew 10:26-28 GNT/NLT*

• \_\_\_\_\_ God.

*Jesus: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.” Luke 10:27 NIV*

• \_\_\_\_\_ God.

*Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths. Proverbs 3:5-6 NKJV*

• \_\_\_\_\_ God.

*If anyone comes to me but does not hate his father, mother, wife, children, brothers, or sisters—or even life—he cannot be my follower [disciple]. Luke 14:26 EXB*

3. \_\_\_\_\_ a godly focus on myself.

*Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will. Romans 12:2 NIV*

*. . . take every thought captive and make it obedient to Christ. 2 Corinthians 10:5 NIV*

*When I am afraid, I will put my trust in you. I praise God for what he has promised. I trust in God, so why should I be afraid? Psalm 56:3-4 NLT*

**Want to connect with God through the Scriptures and dig deeper into this week's message? Check out *The Daily* at [newpointe.org/daily](http://newpointe.org/daily).**