

Faith Christian Fellowship
July 23, 2017
Rejection Proof!

TEXT: Ephesians 1:6

“You have an obligation to pursue wholeness in your life; not so you will feel better but so the world will become better through you.” Pastor Virgil Stokes, FCFTucson, July 16, 2017

In that pursuit, we’re going to get free of from rejection today. The bases for your opinions about yourself are going to change.

Fear of Rejection will keep you from trying something new. It will keep you from serving others like Christ, from making new friends, hinder you in praying and offering prayer. The fear of rejection keeps us silent. It robs us of our wholeness and the World of His.

- I. You are not a reject
 - A. Rejection - When you feel thrown away, cast off, refused, ignored, or slighted you are feeling REJECTED.
 - B. We’ve all felt rejection. Unrequited love, peers, family, media, social values, proposals, rejection letters.
 - C. Fear of rejection is an outcome of not seeing ourselves in the esteem with which God does.
 1. It causes self-fulfilling prophecy. In order to avoid doing things where one might be exposed to rejection, one alienates, hides & rejects others 1st & resulting in rejection.
 2. Steals our confidence to speak up & speak out.
 3. Fear of rejection also reduces the power of God’s WORD by wrapping up the definition of who we are in the definitions of others or how we think others see us.
 - D. GOD understands REJECTION but He is not moved by it. Too many times to number... Num_14:11, 1Sa_10:19, 1Sa_15:23, Eze 5:6, Isa_53:3 (1/3 of heaven, Adam, you.)
 1. **Jesus also knows rejection.** 10x NKJV specifically mentions Jesus being rejected. He was rejected by the Chief Priest & Pharisees, Judas, His home town Mark6 followers John 6:66, even His family Mark 3:20-21
 2. 1Peter2:4 we are rejected by men; but precious to GOD
- II. Whose opinion matters
 - A. The Bible is the Word of God John 17:13-17. **It is TRUTH.** We are always making choices about what we believe. How you see

God’s Word and His Character will determine the effect His Word has.

1. 2Tim 3:16-17 All Scripture is for your PROFIT and was given (God-breathed) for you. His WORD is the FINAL ANSWER against the lies you think about yourself.
 - B. **By Grace You Have Been Saved - Ephesians 2:8** It not only saved you but redefined you too. You are accepted!
 - C. **Romans 3:23-24** He paid a lot for your freedom Rom 5:8
- III. Rejection Proof – Ephesians 1:6
- A. **You are Accepted in the Beloved** It is WHO YOU ARE.
 1. To be accepted by God means – you have been given great favor & honor; & welcomed into not only His presence, but given access to ALL things as a part of His family.
 - B. The only person whose opinion actually matters and means anything in the Universe. LOVES YOU, & has ACCEPTED you.
 1. Accepted is now who you are. It’s not something you aspire to be. Accepted is who you are, it is a part of your nature.
 2. The highest of all OPINIONS and all AUTHORITIES has accepted you.
 - C. You are Rejection Proof.
 1. That doesn’t mean everyone else will always accept you, but it means you don’t have to respond or live subject to their value or opinion of you. Your value was determined in Christ.
 2. **Knowing you are accepted brings:**
 - a. Faith & Confidence in your asking status.
 - b. Boldness and Freedom to declare His goodness.
 - c. A Knowing and fresh sense of Value.
 - D. **So accept your acceptance**
 1. This is important because the WORLD and needs to hear the message in your heart. Don’t fear rejection.
 - a. So they may not believe you or like what you say. They didn’t like what Samuel said either. He felt rejected but the Lord said they really rejecting HIM 1 Sam 8:7
 2. You are accepted in the Beloved and rejection proof – The world isn’t. Without Him they choose the ultimate rejection Rev 20:15.
 3. Don’t let thoughts and lies keep you from being WHOLE
 4. Don’t let fear get in the way of sharing Christ so others can.

“If you live for people’s acceptance; you will die from their rejection.” – Lecrae