

RNC

Approval

- “Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.” **Ephesians 4:29 ESV**
- **Approval - building up or affirming another person**, particularly for who they are (as opposed to what they do); affirming both the fact and the importance of our relationship with another person. “I’m proud of you.” “I appreciate you.” **Opposite disapproval.**
- **Ephesians 4:25-32**
- **The Scriptures teach us TO APPROVE one another**
- “Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.” **Ephesians 4:29 ESV**
- **Our spiritual NEED for approval is ultimately met in Christ**
 - **When separated, God spoke words of acceptance to you**
 - “Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.” **Ephesians 1:5-6 KJV**
 - **When spiritually dead, God spoke words of life to you**
 - “But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—” **Ephesians 2:4-5 ESV**

- **When enslaved, God spoke words of freedom and forgiveness**
 - “In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight”
Ephesians 1:7-8 ESV
 - “In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."” **Mark 1:9-11 ESV**
- 2 different kinds of people within the context of our discussion
 - **Performance driven people**
 - **A performance driven person constantly seeks the approval of people based on what they do instead of just being who God made them to be.** Jesus defined your worth on the cross!
 - **Grace driven person**
 - **A grace driven person is motivated not by the fear of rejection or religious performance, but rather out of the approval already received by God in Christ.** This person serves, loves and worships God because of a deepening understanding of God’s love for them. Their heart’s response to God’s love is to offer that love in their relationships to one another.
 - **The blessing of approval is to be GIVEN by you to one another**
 - **Express to people their great VALUE to you and God by words**

- **Affirm people for WHO they are**
 - **PRIORITIZE giving approval to your family members**
- **When you're in a position of authority, your approval is IMPORTANT**
 - Express to a friend or a family member their great worth to you by completing this sentence - **You are very important to me because _____**
 - **Today you can experience God's approval of you in Christ**
 - What are some way you can offer approval in your one another relationships?
 - Are you operating out of a performance driven life, or a grace driven life? What aspects of your life are performance driven?
 - Have you fully accepted God's approval over you in Christ?
 - Growing up was your need of approval met?