



January 2022

Dear Sisters in Christ,

On the Sunday after Christmas, my kids sang on stage in church. As soon as my 5-year-old daughter got up on stage, she looked overwhelmed, timid, and scared. She wasn't singing or doing the gestures she knew so well - she was paralyzed by the experience. But all that changed the second she saw me. She broke into the biggest smile, pointed to me, and told everyone that I was her mom. Once she locked eyes with me, she started singing.

My heart was overwhelmed at that moment thinking about how different my life would be if I sought out the Lord's attention and approval like my daughter sought out mine. Instead of trying to live life on my own or seeking affirmation from those around me, what if I lived solely to make the Lord smile? What if just thinking about the Lord's faithfulness each day reversed my attitude and moved my hands and feet to action?

I don't know about you, but it's easy to fall into the trap of wanting to be noticed, recognized, and applauded by those around me. And when that doesn't happen, it can lead to feelings of frustration, loneliness, and resentment. Our Savior has a solution to this: Stop looking at those around us for that approval and look to Him instead. God reminds us several times in Scripture that His opinion and attention is all that we need.

"Whatever you do, do it enthusiastically, as something done for the Lord and not for men..."
Colossians 3:23 HCSB

"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."
1 Corinthians 10:31 ESV

"For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ."
Galatians 1:10 ESV

As we start a new year with fresh goals and ideas, let's keep Him in the forefront of our minds. When we trudge to work, when we're doing our fifth load of laundry, when we're cleaning spit-up off our shirt for the tenth time, or when we're in a meeting we don't want to be in, let's remember that our hard work is being noticed by the One who matters most and it's bringing Him glory.

~Your Women's Ministry Team: *Karen, Michele, Lori, Kelli, Trudi, Dianne, Aundrea, Jody*

P.S. If you do not know the Lord in this way, please reach out to one of the pastors or to the Women's Ministry team. We'd love to talk to you about how to have a relationship with the Savior.