

VI. What Do You Really Need?

Biological needs and spiritual needs fit into our purpose as God's image-bearers.

Psychological needs? We do need others. Not to fill a hole deep inside but because only together can we show off who God is.

VII. Conclusion

“See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no ‘root of bitterness’ springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled.” – Hebrews 12:15

Bitterness comes from God not giving us what we think we need.

How do we fight against bitterness?

- Hebrews 12:1-11
- Hebrews 12:14-17

Additional Resources:

Jerry Bridges, *Trusting God*

John Murray, *The Fear of God: The Soul of Godliness*

J.I. Packer, *Knowing God*

John Piper, *The Pleasures of God*

John Piper, *God is the Gospel*

Ed Welch, *When People are Big and God is Small*

Next Week: *What Do We Need?*

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F E A R O F M A N

Class 4: What Do We Need?



I. Introduction

Moving from description to prescription.

The connection between fear of man and a wrong conception of what I really need.

II. Wrong answers to the question, ‘what do I really need?’

1. The ascetic answer
2. The hedonistic answer
3. A combination of the two (common for Christians)

III. What Is A Need?

- Biological Needs
- Spiritual Needs
Eph. 2:1, Ezekiel 16, Rom. 6:17
- Psychological “Needs”

Do we have a *need* to be loved?
(The “Love Cup” Theory)

IV. Problems with the Love Cup Theory

1. Makes it seem as if unfulfilled desire is at least as much a cause of our sinful behavior as our sinful hearts.
2. Does not match the motivations Scripture gives us for loving others.

1 John 4:17

2 Corinthians 5:14-15

Luke 7:47

3. Takes a command to love and derives from it a need to be loved. (Example: Phil. 2:3)

Difference between needs and desires.

The Lord’s Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

V. Who Are You?

²⁶ Then God said, “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.”

²⁷ So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them. – Genesis 1:26-27

You are made in God’s image, in his likeness.

Your purpose is to show off his glory and goodness. As a human being and more so now as a redeemed human being.