

PLEASING GOD / *1 Corinthians 4:3-4*

The New Testament illustrates the importance of pleasing God, not people. The secret to pleasing God is faith, obedience, and service.

Reference	Key Phrase	Significance
John 8:29	“Jesus said, ‘When you have lifted up the Son of Man on the cross, then you will realize that . . . I do nothing on my own, but I speak what the Father taught me.’ ”	Believers are to follow God totally, just as Christ did.
2 Corinthians 5:9	“So our aim is to please him always, whether we are here in this body or away from this body.”	Believers should aim always to please God in their words and actions.
Galatians 6:8	“Those who live to please the Spirit will harvest everlasting life from the Spirit.”	Believers are assured of great reward when they live to please and honor God.
Colossians 1:9-10	“We ask [God] to make you wise with spiritual wisdom. Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and you will continually do good, kind things for others.”	Believers can ask God for wisdom to help them live to honor and please him.
1 Thessalonians 2:4	“Our purpose is to please God, not people. He is the one who examines the motives of our hearts.”	Believers must always focus on pleasing God, then even if they don’t please people, they know that their consciences are clear.
1 Thessalonians 4:1	“Finally . . . we urge you in the name of the Lord Jesus to live in a way that pleases God.”	Believers are urged to please God because of what Jesus has done for them.
Hebrews 11:6	“It is impossible to please God without faith.”	The first ingredient to pleasing God is faith that trusts him for salvation.
1 John 3:22	“And we will receive whatever we request because we obey him and do the things that please him.”	Believers have access to God because of their faith and obedience.