



**SOLID ROCK**  
christian fellowship  
A MINISTRY ON THE PRESCOTT TOWN SQUARE

**Image We Were Made for More  
Imaging People, Part II**  
**1 Thessalonians 2:3-6**  
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1. When you image God rather than people, you can authentically serve people without using people to serve yourself (1 Th 2:3, 5).

2. When you image God rather than people, you rest in God's steadfast approval rather than people's shifty approval (1 Th 2:4).

3. When you image God rather than people, you live for God's unfading glory and not the fleeting glory of people (1 Th 2:6).

**Questions for reflection and application**

Take some time to go through these questions with your life group, close friend, around the dinner table, or in your morning devotions.

1. Flattery is insincere praise to further one's own agenda. Paul did not come to the Thessalonians with flattery but with true speech. Equally, criticism (as opposed to critique) also furthers one's own agenda where critique is for the person's benefit. Do you prefer people's honesty or their false praise? Do you prefer loving critique or criticism?

2. Since God is true and cannot lie, does he ever give false praise? Why does he speak the truth to us? See Eph 4:15.

3. God's message to us must be for our benefit as Paul's message to the Thessalonians was for their benefit. Does this change the way we view God's orientation toward us? Consider Romans 8:31 in answering this question.

4. Since Romans 8:31 is true, how should we evaluate people's flattery or criticism?

5. Does this instruct you in how you can image God with your communication with others?