HOW TO DEAL WITH HOW YOU FEEL

Transforming Grace - Part 6

"The most important commandment is this: You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, and all your soul, and all your mind, and all your strength." Mark 12:29-30 (NLT)

UNDERSTANDING MY EMOTIONS

1. GOD HAS EMOTIONS.

2. MY ABILITY TO FEEL IS A GIFT FROM GOD.

"Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, in our likeness...'" Genesis 1:26 (NIV)

3. THERE ARE TWO EXTREMES TO AVOID:

- Emotionalism- all that matters is how I feel
- Stoicism- feelings aren't important at all

4. GOD GAVE US THE BOOK OF <u>PSALMS</u> TO UNDERSTAND OUR EMOTIONS.

WHY MUST I LEARN TO MANAGE MY EMOTIONS?

1. BECAUSE MY FEELINGS ARE OFTEN UNRELIABLE.

"There is a way that seems right to a man, but in the end, it leads to death." Proverbs 14:12 (NIV)

2. BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO BE MANIPULATED.

"Like an open city with no defenses is the man with no check on his feelings." Proverbs 25:28 (NAB)

"Be self-controlled and alert. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour."

1 Peter 5:8 (NIV)

3. BECAUSE I WANT TO PLEASE GOD.

"To be controlled by human nature results in death; to be controlled by the Spirit results in life and peace... Those who obey their human nature cannot please God." Romans 8:6-8 (TEV)

4. BECAUSE I WANT TO SUCCEED IN LIFE.

"[People] get lost and die because of their foolishness and lack of self-control." Proverbs 5:23 (CEV)

"From now on you must live the rest of your earthly lives controlled by God's will and not by human desires."

1 Peter 4:2 (TEV)

HOW TO MANAGE AN UNWANTED FEELING:

1. <u>NAME</u> IT!

Ask: What am I really feeling?

2. CHALLENGE IT!

Ask: What's the real reason I'm feeling this?
Is it true?
Is it helping or hurting me?

Eliphaz asked Job: "Why has your heart carried you away, and why do your eyes flash?" Job 15:12 (NIV)

3. <u>TAME</u> IT!

Everyday: Ask God to fill me with His Spirit.

"When the Holy Spirit controls our lives, He will produce this kind of fruit in us: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."

Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT)

Everyday: Ask God to help me manage my mouth.

"Self-control means controlling the tongue!"

Proverbs 13:3 (LB)

"May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord!" Psalm 19:14 (NIV)