

WHEN PEOPLE ARE BIG & GOD IS SMALL

Study Guide: Chapter 1 - "Love Tanks with A Leak"

1. Read Proverbs 29:25. What two possibilities does the proverb present and what are their outcomes?
2. How does the author describe William's problem? (9)
3. How did the truth of justification by faith help the author for a while? (11-12)
4. What things did the author describe made him feel good about himself? (12) Why are these things wrong?
5. When we need or want love or something from others what is the result? (13)

6. How does the author summarize the fear of man? (14)
What other names does it go by? (14)

7. Read Exodus 20:2-3. What do we call it when a person breaks this commandment?

8. Many view fear as a problem of the passive. How does fear manifest itself among the more aggressive? (17)

9. What important Christian activity does the fear of man prevent? (17)

10. What answer did Melody Beattie give in her secular book Codependent No More? (18) Why is this wrong?

11. What four problems arise when we just try to replace the secular view of “self love” with “God’s love”? (18)
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.

12. Read Romans 1:25-26a. What happens after a person stops believing the truth about God? Is our problem with the “fear of man” primarily psychological or theological? What implications will “worshipping man” eventually have on morality?

***Big Idea:** When we “fear man” we replace God, our Savior, with humans who can only deepen our bondage.*