**Out of the Mouth
By: Barbara Caldwell**

**The Bible says, *“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven”* (Matthew 5:11-12 NIV).**

People will talk. They always have. And they always will. No matter what you do or say, how you behave, the way you walk or dress, how you act, or the decisions you make, you will always be scrutinized by others.

When people criticize you for living a life that is pleasing to God, scripture says that: Those in the body of Christ will have a great reward waiting for them in heaven. What a blessing! So, take your focus off of man and focus on eternity. Man’s negative opinion will not last. The only thing that *will* last is God’s church. Only God’s family will be in heaven forever. Romans 12:2 says. “Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is – his good, pleasing and perfect will.” That’s why you don’t want to waste your life worrying about what people say about you. Instead, God wants you to spend your days doing the things that please him—using the gifts, talents, and abilities he’s given you to worship him and make an eternal difference with your life.

If you’re going to make something of your life, not everyone is going to like it. You’re always going to find people who feel it’s their job to criticize every dream or project God puts on your heart. Their favorite word is “no,” and their favorite phrase is, “You can’t do that.” When someone refuses to help you accomplish what God has called you to do, don’t fret about it. Just let God be God—and keep your focus on the people who want to help.

If God likes what you’re doing, then you know you’re doing the right thing. The more Christ means to you, the less other’s opinions mean.

Imagine how simple your life would be if you lived for an audience of One!