

UNDERSTANDING REJECTION

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*Therefore, accept each other just as Christ has accepted you so that God will be given glory.
Romans 15:7 (NLT)*

Think or feel rejected and unloved



Determined to please the significant others to gain their approval



More rejection comes resulting in choosing one of three defensive postures



THREE DEFENSIVE POSTURES

Beat the System

- This person basically buys the system and learns to compete or scheme to “get ahead” and become the “significant other”
- Eventually results in more rejection because the ability to perform eventually diminishes

Give In to the System

- Continue the efforts to satisfy others but begins to believe that they are rejectable and unlovable
- Results in more rejection because acceptance comes less to those who reject themselves

Rebel Against the System

- This person fights the system and says “I don’t need or want your love”, and often behaves or dresses in an objectionable way
- Results in more rejection because a rebel causes others to be more defensive of the system they reject.

EMOTIONAL RESULTS

- Inability to express feelings
- Emotional insulation
- Perfectionism
- Worries

- Feelings of worthlessness and inferiority
- Subjectivity
- Introspection
- Self-condemning

- Wishing he had never been born
- Undisciplined
- Irresponsibility
- Self-hatred
- Bitterness

ATTITUDES & REACTIONS TOWARDS GOD

Refuses to come under God’s authority, has little real fellowship with God

Projects earthly father’s behavior unto God, unable to trust God

Views God as a tyrant and rebels against Him

¹Victory Over the Darkness, Neil T. Anderson, Regal Books, 1990, Page 214