

The Value of an Individual

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I. Introduction.

II. Our inherent value as persons to God.

A. How we value human worth.

1. By the body. Materially you are worth than less than a dollar.
2. By the soul. The redeemed human soul is worth the whole world. (Mark 8:36-37)
3. One measures value by willingness to spend money, time and effort.
 - a. A parent is willing to give all of this for her children.
 - b. There is no limit to the time, effort and expense in regard to this.

B. We can measure our value to God by the time, effort and expense He devotes to us. (1 Corinthians 10:22, Genesis)

C. God's knowledge of the stars in comparison to His knowledge of the individual.

1. God knows the number of the stars. (Psalm 137:4)
 - a. God knows the number of hairs on everyone's head in regard to one's worth. (Luke 12:6-7)
 - b. So too a person's fingerprints and bacteria testify to a person's uniqueness and value.
 - c. God made everybody unique just as every snowflake. His originality is infinite.
2. God knows the names of the stars.
 - a. God calls all people by their names. (1 Samuel 3:10, Judges 7:10)
 - b. God has given to believers a new secret name that only that person and Christ know. (Revelation 2:10)
3. God knows the purpose of the stars. (Job 38:4-7)
 - a. The stars create a great symphony in an inaudible radio frequency.

b. God has a purpose for every man also. (Ephesians 2:10)

C. The greatest number in the Bible is the number of sands on the earth - He has given more thoughts to a person's career plan than this number though. (Psalm 137:19)

1. God had all these thoughts for a man.
2. God has a career plan for everyone. God gave everyone a unique genetic blueprint.
3. God created man with a distinct body and soul. (Psalm 139:15-16)
4. God created the body and soul as an integrated unit.
5. God puts a lot of effort into our present and past demonstrating our value to Him.

III. Our potential value in serving God - the Great Commission.

A. Paul adapted to a hostile atmosphere by dealing one by one with disciples when public meeting was prevented. (Acts 17:2, 5; 1 Thessalonians 2:11)

1. Children need individual attention just as Christians do.
2. The Thessalonians became a model because of this. (1 Thessalonians 1:7-8)

B. Paul's greatest success story. (Acts 9:18-2-10)

1. Paul left the public ministry of the Jews at Ephesus after being expelled from the public square.
2. He worked instead at the lecture hall at Tyrannus and all heard the Word of the Lord there. Paul saw the value of the individual as great in regards to the Great Commission.
3. Every individual is of great worth to God and has unlimited potential to Him. (Isaiah 60:22)

IV. Discussion.

A. The purpose of a one-on-one is to give a growing person a chance to have questions answered in regards to his spiritual life.

B. Dawson Trotman's method was to make sure every person was convicted of the message and material he was sharing.

Application questions.

1. Do you struggle with self-worth? What does the Bible tell you about your worth according to the message?

2. What was Paul's method for success in the Great Commission? How did this demonstrate a person's value to God?

3. How will you exercise your potential in light of the message to make an impact on another life?
