

THE VALUE OF EVERY LIFE  
PSALM 8:1-5

What value would you place on the lives of the individuals you have just viewed? Actually, the value of each of those lives is the same? Their lifestyles and contribution to humanity may vary, but their value is the same. How do we determine the value of a life and how do we respond if in fact every person has tremendous value?

I. THE FOUNDATION FOR THIS VALUE.

A. Inappropriate Foundations.

1. Appearance.

\* You should not root your value in your physical beauty. \*

2. Achievement.

\* Performance in athletics, academics, arts or career is a good thing, but not the basis for your value.\*

3. Affluence

\* Wealth, social class, or popularity are also good, but not the basis for your value. \*

B. Appropriate Foundation.

1. Man's creation in the image of God. Gen. 1:26,27.

2. Jesus' death on the cross for man's salvation. John 3:16.

II. THE APPLICATION TO MAJOR ISSUES.

A. Abortion.

1. The formation of the unborn baby is a miraculous work of God. Ps. 139:13-16.

2. The child has a God-given purpose in life. Jer. 1:5.

3. The child has the right to live and have a chance in life.

B. Capital Punishment. Gen. 9:6; Rom. 13:4.

\* The value of human life is demonstrated when the person who deliberately takes an innocent life has to pay the ultimate price, his own life.\*

C. Civil Rights. Acts 17:26.

\* While there may be superficial differences between different ethnic groups, we are all members of one race, the human race. We are all descendants of the same parents, Adam and Eve. \*

III. THE APPLICATION TO DAILY LIFE.

A. Respect for Self.

1. Healthy self-esteem is rooted in the Biblical doctrine of man.

2. Some have said that healthy respect for others must include a healthy respect for self. Matt. 22:37-40.

B. Respect for Others.

1. Creating an environment of respect and safety.

\* We do that with conversation and actions. \*

2. Confronting with respect instead of contempt.

3. Conducting myself appropriately toward all.

\* Realizing the value of others will prevent me from exploiting them for profit or pleasure.\*

Let's look beyond the surface issues that cause us to treat people differently to the core issues that cause us to value and respect every man, woman, boy and girl that God allows us to encounter in life.