

VALUE, WORTH, IDENTITY
MAY 7, 2017

1. One of the biggest battles many face in life today has to do with their value, worth and identity.
MATTHEW 10:29-31
 - A. Who am I? Why am I here? What is my purpose?
 - B. Some try to find their identity in things that don't last: their position, clothes, athletic ability, looks, intelligence, etc.
 - C. When these things are gone, then what: depression, some turn to drugs, alcohol, even entertain suicidal thoughts.
 - D. The problem is their foundation is wrong. **MATTHEW 7:24-27**
2. One's life can be based on things that can be swept away or on a foundation that cannot be moved.
 - A. God's Word provides a sure foundation upon which to base our value, worth and identity.
 - B. Building on anything else is building on things that won't stand the test of time.
1 CORINTHIANS 3:11-15
3. The value of a thing is found in what one is willing to pay for it. "One man's trash is another man's treasure!"
 - A. Before the Civil War a slave in his prime and highly skilled in blacksmithing was sold for \$2,000.00. \$56,000.00 in today's money.
 - B. **ROMANS 1:1 (HCSB), PHILIPPIANS. 1:1 (HCSB), JAMES 1:1 (HCSB)** – Paul, Timothy and James all viewed themselves as slaves.
 - C. **1 CORINTHIANS 6:19-20** – We all have been bought with a price and considered slaves to the one who bought us.
 - D. **1 PETER 1:18-19 (CEV)**
 - The value of Jesus' Blood is beyond calculation.
 - What about the value and worth of what He purchased with it? Our value is found in what God paid for us.
 - E. **PSALMS 8:3-4** – on what level have we been made?
4. What God sees as treasure, we should never speak evil of. **MATTHEW 5:21-22**
 - A. To the Scribes, the law was a matter of external performance not internal intent. You can kill with your tongue only.
 - B. To Jesus, anger released in "fool" or "raca" is deadly.
 - Fool targets the character, raca targets the intelligence.
 - Raca – Nitwit, blockhead, numbskull, bonehead, brainless idiot. This language is destructive and highly offensive to God.
 - C. **ACTS 10:15** – What God cleansed is not common.
5. Christ is our life. **COLOSSIANS 3:1-4, GALATIANS 2:20**
 - A. A new creation – **2 CORINTHIANS 5:17**
 - B. An ambassador – **2 CORINTHIANS 5:20**
 - C. God's righteousness – **2 CORINTHIANS 5:21**
 - D. Temple of the Holy Ghost – **1 CORINTHIANS 6:19-20**
 - E. Washed, sanctified, justified – **1 CORINTHIANS 6:11**
 - F. Reconciled, holy, unblameable, unreprouable. – **COLOSSIANS 1:20-21**
 - G. Joint heirs with Christ – **ROMANS 8:17**
 - H. More than conquerors – **ROMANS 8:37**
 - I. Made complete – **COLOSSIANS 2:9-10 (AMPC)**

CONCLUSION: No matter what we were or what we did before Christ, we are cleansed now and no more common. What we say about ourselves should be based on who we are and what we have in Christ. How we speak about others, should reflect God's attitude toward people. Don't allow the enemy to use your tongue to devalue another human life.