

The Importance of the Individual

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I. Introduction - Every once in a while we all feel unimportant. This is because we regard ourselves with a human point of view comparing ourselves with others. (2 Corinthians 5:16) We need to have God's point of view.

II. God's view.

A. Every person is important because he is created in God's image. (Genesis 1)

1. This means that everyone is unique and has personality.
2. This means that everyone has the power of abstract thought.
3. This means everyone has a conscience feeling the right and wrong of a matter.
4. This means everyone has a spiritual nature unsatisfied until he is hooked into eternity.
5. A person is eternal unlike the things around him.

B. Every person is important by virtue of what he cost.

1. Man cost God the best heaven had - God's only Son.
2. When Jesus came, man cost Him his life.
3. Man is twice God's - He made him and bought him.

C. Every person is important by virtue of what he can become. (John 1:42)

D. From young to old, God can use every person.

III. Every person is also important to another person.

IV. Gaining perspective on the worth of every individual.

A. Paul got a new point of view regarding men from a new relationship with God. (2 Corinthians 5:16)

B. This new relationship is a two step process.

1. God offers Himself to a person. That person receives Christ's offer of forgiveness. (Revelation 3:20)
2. The person then offers himself to God. (Romans 12:1)

Application questions

1. Why is it that every person has worth?

2. Paul gained a new view toward man because of his relationship with God? What is the process by which one can enter into this relationship?

3. Have you ever received God's offer of Himself to you? Have you ever offered yourself to Him? What is keeping you from taking these steps? Spend some time in prayer and reflection over these important life decisions.
