

Am I Worth It?

True Value

with Stephen Hartwell

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Outline of Our Session:

- Defining Our Worth
- Our Value in Creation
- Is our Value Affected by the Fall?
- Our Value demonstrated at the Cross



Introduction: Defining Worth

**‘Because you’re
worth it’ *Loreal Paris***

**Are you Beach Body
Ready?**

Intrinsic or extrinsic worth

Intrinsic = the value that something has in 'itself' or 'for its own sake', or 'in its own right'.

Extrinsic = value derived from something related, but not in its own right



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Seeking Worth:

I want to feel	I don't want to feel	I am searching for
Loved	Unloved	Intimacy
Significance	Insignificant	Purpose/Calling
Acceptance	Unaccepted	Belonging
Secure	Insecure	Assurance

Exercise 1 (2 mins)

Where do you think people find their worth outside of the church, and is this in different places from Christians?

How do you respond to this idea that we have an intrinsic value as opposed to extrinsic?

How should we live if we understand our true value?



1: We are Worth it as we are Made in God's Image (Genesis 1 & 2)



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Created Mankind in His Own Image:

“Then God said, ‘Let us make mankind **in our image**, in **our likeness**, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground.’ So God created mankind **in his own image**, in the **image of God** he created them; male and female he created them.”

Genesis 1:26-27

Exercise 2 (5 mins)

Read Genesis 1:24-31 & 2:15-25

What does the way God created us tell us about our worth in His sight?

How would you describe what it means to be made in the image of God?



The Four 'R's

Created	Explained...
Relational	With God and with one another
Responsible	For our moral choices and for caring for the world
Rational	Able to think and talk with intelligence.
Real	Experiencing emotions and finding our worth in God

Exercise 3 (2 mins)

How do you respond to each of the four 'R's as reasons for our worth?

Which of these strikes you the most as being counter to the cultural views of value, and why?



2: WE ARE VALUED IN SPITE OF BEING MARRED BY SIN (GENESIS 3)



The Fall

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Exercise 4 (5 mins)

Read Genesis 3

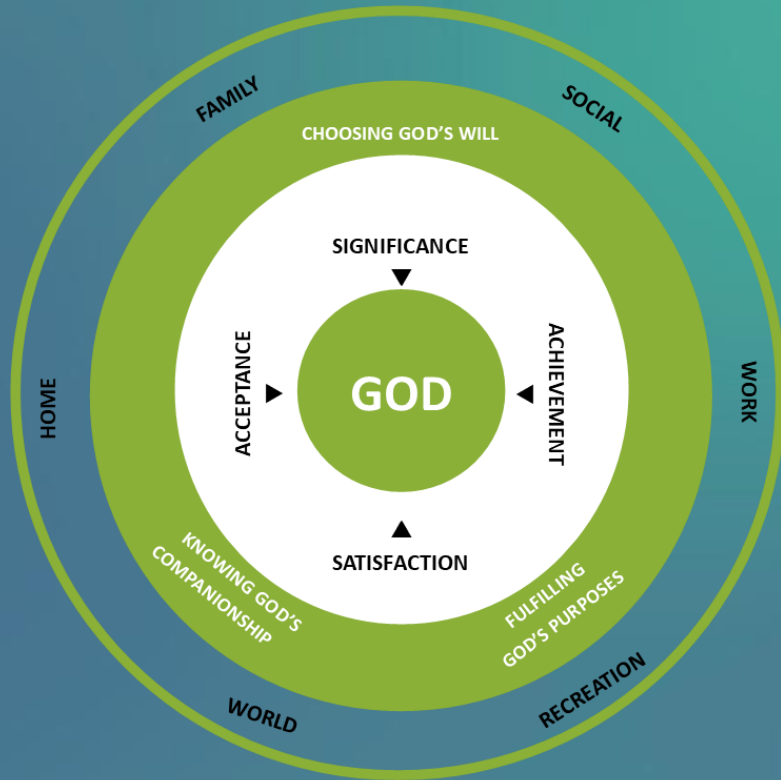
What were the consequences of the Fall for humanity (represented here by Adam & Eve)?

In what ways did the Fall distort the image of God within humanity?

The Four 'R's Post-Fall

We were Created...	Impacts of the fall...
Relational	Relationships become difficult Vulnerability before God
Responsible	Blame-shifting Weakness
Rational	Darkened understanding
Real	Negative emotions Temptation to hide.

Effects of the Fall



Before the Fall
(Genesis 1-2)



After the Fall
(Genesis 3 onwards)



Exercise 5 (2 mins)

What do you think about the two diagrams?

Can you relate to the idea of deriving our worth from within, instead of looking to God to see what we are really worth?

What are some of the pitfalls we need to avoid when thinking about where we seek to find our value?



3: WE ARE WORTH IT BECAUSE OF WHAT IT COST – THE CROSS (1 PETER 1:18-19)

Well, how much do you think
you are worth, boy?
Will anyone stand up and say?
Would you say that a man is
worth nothing
Until someone is willing to pay?

Sacred Journey, Graham Kendrick



Exercise 6 (2 mins)

Have you ever reframed the question of worth within the context of the price that Jesus paid at the Cross?

How might reflecting on the true cost of the Cross change how we think about ourselves, and what impact would this have on how we live out our faith?

WORTH MORE THAN MANY SPARROWS

“Are not five sparrows sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. Indeed, the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.”

Luke 12:6-7

“...not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care”

Matthew 10:29



“God is the Creator God, he doesn’t want to say, “Okay, creation was very good, but I’m scrapping it.” He wants to say, “Creation is so good that I’m going to rescue it.”

N.T. Wright

The Cost of Redemption

“But God demonstrates **his own love** for us in this: While we were **still sinners**, Christ died for us.”

Romans 5:8

“For you know that it **was not with perishable things** such as **silver or gold** that you were redeemed from the empty way of life handed down to you from your ancestors, but with the **precious blood of Christ**, a lamb **without blemish or defect**”

1 Peter 1:18-19



“Within each of us exists the image of God, however disfigured and corrupted by sin it may presently be. God is able to recover this image through grace as we are conformed to Christ.”

Alistair E. McGrath

CONCLUSION: WORTH COMES FROM THE IMAGE WE BEAR (MATTHEW 22:15-21):

“Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax to Caesar or not?” Matthew 22:17

“Give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s” Matt. 22:21

“We are God’s workmanship created in Christ Jesus to do good works which God prepared for us in advance”
Ephesians 2:10

“We must be transformed by the renewing of our minds” Romans 12:2

FINAL REFLECTION: PSALM 139: 13-18

“For you **created my inmost being**; you **knit me together** in my mother’s womb. I praise you because I am **fearfully and wonderfully made**; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. **My frame was not hidden from you** when I was made in the **secret place**, when I was **woven together** in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw **my unformed body**; **all the days ordained for me** were written in your book before one of them came to be. How **precious to me are your thoughts**, God! How **vast is the sum** of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand—when I awake, **I am still with you.**”



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