

**A MESSAGE ON YOUR GOD-GIVEN WORTH**

# **WHY BELIEVE IN YOUR WORTH?**

**By George Foster**



It's one thing to have worth (we all do) and another thing to have proper belief in and appreciation for the worth that God has given you. Your life can be enhanced when you believe that God has created you in such a way that you can do what He has purposed for you. Having that confidence...

1. Increases your love and appreciation for the one who gives you worth – your Creator and your Redeemer.
2. Frees you from the need to employ false standards and unwise means of proving to yourself and to others that you have value.
3. Gives you the ability to humble yourself and serve God and others in ways that truly make a difference in Christ's kingdom and in other people's lives.
4. Enhances your ability to believe that God can work through you in powerful and significant ways.
5. Helps you acquire the confidence necessary to discover your gifts and callings and be comfortable in the midst of those whose gifts and callings seem more important or prestigious than yours.
6. Allows you to be comfortable being the person God made you to be rather than attempting to be the person others expect you to be.
7. Frees you to show others who you truly are rather than projecting an image you think will make you more acceptable to them.
8. Helps you to avoid depression and negativity that result from ambiguity about who you are and what your purpose in life is.

## **You may feel of little value when you...**

1. Are are not pursuing the purpose for which you were created.
2. Are not living by the values by which you should live.
3. Are distanced from God, who alone can give you value.
4. Accept the opinions of others rather than the Word of God.
5. Allow the devil to rob you of the positive view you need to take.

Some of the strongest scriptures in the Bible regarding loss of useful value are found in the Book of Jeremiah.

1. "They followed worthless idols and became worthless themselves. They did not ask, 'Where is the Lord?'" (2:5-6).
2. "My people have exchanged their glory for worthless idols." (2:11)
3. "I had planted you like a choice vine, of sound and reliable stock. How, then, did you turn against me like a corrupt, wild vine?" (2:21)

Do you recognize the incredible worth given to you by God and are you living in a way that is consistent with it? God has wonderful things in store for you.

Jesus once told a collection of four parables about the kingdom of God. In each of them he made a different comparison.

1. His first story compared God's kingdom to the field of a farmer who sowed his seed and discovered that weeds had grown in the midst of the wheat. Sounds rather like the church—a mixture that will coexist until he returns.
2. His second illustration compared the kingdom to the growth of a tiny mustard seed, a tiny starting place for most of us, but with great potential for growth.
3. His third comparison referred to the expansion of yeast. We all know how the dough rises and becomes wonderful bread capable of feeding.
4. Finally he compared the kingdom of God to a field with a hidden treasure. This one is particularly relevant to our worth as individuals.

*“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field.  
When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went  
and sold all he had and bought that field” (Matthew 13:44).*

I have heard, on numerous occasions, that Jesus is the treasure in this story and we are the people who found and bought the field to have Him. But that interpretation doesn't seem to fit, and certainly is out of character with the other comparisons that Jesus made in his stories. I think He was saying that *we are the treasure* and that Jesus found us and paid for the whole world in order to have us. That certainly puts a great value upon us and is consistent with what He came for—“to seek and to save that which was lost.”

I have British friends who use the word “treasure” in reference to people they deem to be a little odd. “Oh, she's a treasure,” they say with a chuckle. These friends are warm loving people who have a constant stream of these “treasures” at their door for tea, coffee or Bible study. It is a home where people who are perhaps not valued by others feel valued by their gracious hosts. Maybe we all are a treasure in this sense of the word—a little odd—but Jesus has purchased us because He loves us.

He seeks us, protects us, values us, purchases us and embraces us with purposes in mind for each of us.