

The Value of Each One
Matthew 18:10-14

“The Harvard Study of Adult Development”

Uncontrollable Predictors

social class of parents

social class of parents
having a happy childhood

social class of parents

having a happy childhood

having ancestors who lived long

social class of parents

having a happy childhood

having ancestors who lived long

avoiding clinical depression

Controllable Predictors

smoking

smoking
drinking

smoking
drinking
obesity

smoking

drinking

obesity

sedentary lifestyle

rumination and reactivity

rumination and reactivity
intellectual lethargy

rumination and reactivity

intellectual lethargy

unstable relationships

* good relationships

“There are two pillars of happiness. . . .

One is love. The other is finding a way of coping with life that does not push love away.”

George Vaillant

“The lessons aren’t about wealth or fame or working harder and harder.

“The clearest message that we get from this . . . study is this: good relationships keep us happier and healthier. Period. . . .

“The people who were the most satisfied in their relationships at age 50 were the healthiest at age 80.”

Robert Waldinger

* Relationships matter!

1. The basis of relationships - childlike humility

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childlike humility =
the sanity of self-forgetfulness

“Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

“Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.” (3-4)

We are called to be like children. (2-4)

We are called to be like children. (2-4)

We are called to welcome children. (5-6)

We are called to be like children. (2-4)

We are called to welcome children. (5-6)

We are called to protect children. (7-9)

2. The value of relationships - individual significance (10-14)

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“See that you do not despise one of these little ones.” (10a)

2. The value of relationships -

individual significance (10-14)

despise = to devalue, disregard, disrespect

So why should we value them?

1. They are **privileged**.

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“For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.” (10b)

Childlike humility is not deceived by . . .
the size of the person.

Childlike humility is not deceived by . . .
the size of the person.
their net worth.

Childlike humility is not deceived by . . .
the size of the person.
their net worth.
their TikTok followers.

Childlike humility is not deceived by . . .
their appearance.

Childlike humility is not deceived by . . .
their appearance.
their personality.

Two examples of their privilege:

Two examples of their privilege:
They have **angels**.

Two examples of their privilege:

They have **angels**.

“their angels” (10)



They have angels who **see the Father's face.**

They have angels who **see the Father's face.**

“always see the face of my Father who is in
heaven” (10b)

“For the Son of Man came to save the lost”
(11)

1. They are privileged.

2. They are **pursued**.

1. They are privileged.

2. They are **pursued**.

“What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them has gone astray,

1. They are privileged.

2. They are **pursued**.

does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray?" (12)

“And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray.” (13)

3. They are **protected**.

3. They are **protected**.

“So it is not the will of my Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.” (14)

“My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish, and no one will snatch them out of my hand.

“My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all, and no one is able to snatch them out of the Father’s hand. I and the Father are one.”

John 10:27-30

How can we grow in valuing each individual?

How can we grow in valuing each individual?
Start with **yourself**.

Three major episodes in the first part of
Moses's life – Exodus 2

Three major episodes in the first part of
Moses's life – Exodus 2
Episode 1 - Abandoned

Three major episodes in the first part of

Moses's life – Exodus 2

Episode 1 - Abandoned

Episode 2 - Alienated

Three major episodes in the first part of
Moses's life – Exodus 2

Episode 1 - Abandoned

Episode 2 - Alienated

Episode 3 - Aimless

Three major episodes in the first part of
Moses's life – Exodus 2

Episode 1 - Abandoned — rescued

Episode 2 - Alienated

Episode 3 - Aimless

Three major episodes in the first part of
Moses's life – Exodus 2

Episode 1 - Abandoned — rescued

Episode 2 - Alienated — rescues

Episode 3 - Aimless

Three major episodes in the first part of
Moses's life – Exodus 2

Episode 1 - Abandoned — rescued

Episode 2 - Alienated — rescues

Episode 3 - Aimless — rescues

“their cry for rescue from slavery”

Exodus 2:23b

“to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling,
to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy
toward all people.”

Titus 3:2

“For we ourselves were once foolish,
disobedient, led astray, slaves to various
passions and pleasures, passing our days in
malice and envy, hated by others and hating
one another.”

Titus 3:3

“But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness,

“but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,”

Titus 3:4-6

How can we grow in valuing each individual?

Start with yourself.

Ask for **wisdom**.

Ask for **wisdom**.

- on a mundane level

Ask for **wisdom**.

- on a mundane level
- on a missional level

Start with yourself.

Ask for wisdom.

Courageously go for **more joy**.

“What can we do to encourage young people to break out of social isolation and inhibition?”

“I believe young people need to cultivate the virtue of courage in order to lean into who they were created to be.”

Alan Noble

It's risky to meet a new friend.

It's risky to meet a new friend.

It's risky to ask out a girl.

It's risky to meet a new friend.

It's risky to ask out a girl.

It's risky to reach out to someone who has walked away.

It's risky to read the Bible with a coworker.

It's risky to read the Bible with a coworker.
It's risky to share the gospel with a non-Christian.

“And if he finds it . . .” (13a)

“And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more . . .” (13a)