

Value Every Life!
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Psalm 139

Does God really care about me and my life? There are people all over the world this morning asking that question. Sadly there are also people all over this world today treating human life as if God doesn't care about every individual.

Today is SANCTITY OF LIFE SUNDAY. As I mentioned in my email of the notes, all our adult Sunday School classes are viewing a video today about the sanctity of life and the tragedy of abortion. Before we view that video, let's look at a beautiful passage of scripture that speaks to this topic.

Here's the big idea: God CARES about every life because God CREATED every life. He knows everything about us; He's always with us, and is always guiding us. What God values we should value. That means we should value every life!

As David reflected on this truth, he was so blown away he penned a beautiful song...Psalm 139.

Psalm 139:1–6 (Reading today from HCSB)

- 1 Lord, You have searched me and known me.
- 2 You know when I sit down and when I stand up;
You understand my thoughts from far away.
- 3 You observe my travels and my rest;
You are aware of all my ways.
- 4 Before a word is on my tongue,
You know all about it, Lord.
- 5 You have encircled me;
You have placed Your hand on me.
- 6 This extraordinary knowledge is beyond me.
It is lofty; I am unable to reach it.

- **In these first six verses, what is David telling us about God? What's the "ten dollar" theological term for that? How does it make you feel realizing God knows your every move, every word, every action, even every thought?**
- **Even knowing everything about us, how does God treat us?**
- Have you ever had a friend who knows all your "stuff" and still loves you? As special as that is, consider that God must put a high value on life to know us totally and still love us COMPLETELY!
- David moves on in verse 7 saying to God,

7 Where can I go to escape Your Spirit?
Where can I flee from Your presence?

8 If I go up to heaven, You are there;
if I make my bed in Sheol, You are there.
9 If I live at the eastern horizon
or settle at the western limits,
10 even there Your hand will lead me;
Your right hand will hold on to me.

- **What other “ten dollar” theological term about God is David describing in verses 7-10?**
- David wasn't saying he wanted to escape God, he was using extreme examples to illustrate that there is nowhere we can go that God isn't with us.
- Just think: How would it change us if we were constantly aware of God's presence?

God not only KNOWS every life, and is PRESENT in every life, God MADE every life.

13 For it was You who created my inward parts;
You knit me together in my mother's womb.
14 I will praise You
because I have been remarkably and wonderfully made.
Your works are wonderful,
and I know this very well.
15 My bones were not hidden from You
when I was made in secret,
when I was formed in the depths of the earth.
16 Your eyes saw me when I was formless;
all my days were written in Your book and planned
before a single one of them began.

- **Verse 13: David could have just said, “You made me.” Why do you think he was so descriptive, why talk about creating “my inward parts?” What about the words “knit” or “wove” me together in my mother's womb? What is David trying to convey?**
- Example: Beautiful lace or elaborate tapestry.
- **How would the creator of a beautiful, elaborate, carefully woven tapestry feel about that creation? How would they want others to feel about it...to treat it?**
- Verse 14: “Fearfully” or “Remarkably and wonderfully made.”
- God never says “Oops!” God makes NO mistakes.
- We sometimes hear people say: “Well we thought we were done having kids but this one is our “little surprise.” Surprise to you maybe, but not to God. God's never surprised. Or one sibling taunts another saying, “You were an accident.” Not to God.
- Worst yet, when an unloving parent spews in anger: “You were a mistake.” God doesn't make mistakes.
- **Also, verse 14: David didn't just think about God's “wonderful” work...what did he do?**

- How often do we look at human life and break into PRAISE to God? How could someone look at an ultrasound and NOT praise God? I've witnessed two c-sections... if I didn't praise God, the "rocks would cry out," to quote our Lord.
- Verse 16 says God was watching every child when we were "formless." **What else does verse 16 say God sees in that new life?**
- Once a life is conceived it's not a "mass of cells" to God. It's a person, a life, with a story. The "days of our lives" are not a soap opera...but God's sovereign plan for each individual!

There's another great verse in Jeremiah chapter 1 and verse 5. God is speaking to Jeremiah about this very thing:

Jeremiah 1:5 (NIV)

5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,
before you were born I set you apart;
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations."

- Here's the thing, God values every life so much that you could plug anyone's name into that verse. Of course, God gave Jeremiah a special role to play in the Kingdom; but, when it comes to loving and caring and having a plan for his life, God didn't treat Jeremiah differently than anyone else.
- Before God formed YOU in the womb He knew you, before YOU were born He had a plan for YOUR LIFE!
- How dare anyone try to "re-write" or "alter" a life story God has ORDAINED?

So, What's The Takeaway?

God cares about every life because God created every life. He knows everything about us; He's always with us, and is always guiding us. What God values we should value. That means we should value every life!

One more word before this video, for some this topic is not just a lesson or sermon topic, it's real life experience. We're always sensitive to that, and I want to reinforce that God is a God of healing and reconciliation. Nothing in our past is beyond God's forgiveness and healing.