

### c) **Ultimate Love**

- Jesus died for all – for those who would one day become believers, and those who would NEVER become believers.
- Jesus' death was not some sort of investment based on what gain He could get out of our lives. His death was based on what He felt all of us were worth to Him.
- You, as an individual, are worth the life of God's son
- Illustration – Interrupting You At Your Worst
- “My Son is dying for you, because you are worth a Son to me.”

### d) **The Best Kind of Love**

- God knows us absolutely, and loves us anyway.
- God does not love us for what He can get from us now, or will one day get from us. He loves us for who we are.
- God doesn't want us for what we can do for Him — anything He wants He can make. He wants our companionship simply because He enjoys us.
- Illustration – Assembly Line Versus A Dance

### **SUMMARY**

- Your worth is not determined by your performance, or other people's opinions. Your worth is determined by the price paid for you
- No matter how incredible it sounds, you are of incredible value, because YOU ARE WORTH A SON to Him!
- God paid the price, simply because He wants to dance with you!

## **Your True Worth**

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Self-esteem – what you have decided you are worth

Public worth – the value someone else has placed on you

### **THE SEARCH FOR SELF-WORTH**

#### **1. Worth Derived From Self**

- It is impossible for a person to establish his or her own worth
- Our conscience reminds us that our positive self-evaluations are more wishful thinking than reality
- What measure do we use to set the standard for our worth or non-worth?

#### **2. Worth Derived From Others**

- Self-worth is actually based on how we perceive others value us
- Illustration – Kidnapped!

#### **3. Self-Image Versus True-Worth**

- Your true worth will never be the same as how you perceive yourself instinctively.
- Illustration – Mental Illness

## **GOD'S APPRAISAL OF YOUR WORTH**

### **1. Fallen Short – Yet Still Redeemed**

- Romans 3:10-11, 23, NIV – (10) *As it is written: “There is no one righteous, not even one; (11) there is no one who understands, no one who seeks God. ... (23) for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.*
- Romans 3:24-25, NIV – (24) *[We] are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. (25) God presented him as a sacrifice of atonement, through faith in his blood.*
- Our sin before a holy God triggered the sentence of death on us. Some one had to pay the penalty, but only Jesus Christ was capable of completely satisfying the just demands of a holy God in relation to all mankind's sin. So Jesus took our place, paid the price for our sin, and so now Jesus' righteousness becomes our righteousness, when we accept Him as our Lord and Saviour.

### **2. We Have A Hope**

- Romans 5:2,5, ESV – (2) *... And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God. ... (5) and hope does not put us to shame ...*
- Shame came into the world through mankind's first experience with disobedience, resulting in unrighteousness.
- Shame causes us to avoid revealing who we really are.

### **3. Unforgettable Love – Our Subjective Hope**

- Romans 5:5, ESV – (5) *and hope does not put us to shame, because God's [agape] love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.*

- Agape love is the subjective, or experiential feeling that God has for us.
- God's love poured into our hearts, leaving a permanent effect.
- Paul says that this subjective sense of being loved by God, keeps believers from being ashamed of who they are, and of the hope they have

### **4. Sacrificial Love – Our Objective Hope**

- Romans 5:6, NIV – (6) *You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly.*
- Whenever we want to know the depth of God's love for us, we can look to this historical fact.

#### **a) Strategic Love**

- Romans 5:7-10, NIV – (7) *Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man [a religious person], though for a good man [a beneficial person] someone might possibly dare to die. (8) But God demonstrates his own [agape] love for us in this: While we were still sinners [continually sinning], Christ died for us. (9) Since we have now been justified by his blood, how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him! (10) For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him through the death of his Son, how much more, having been reconciled, shall we be saved through his life!*

#### **b) Unconditional Love**

- God chose the time that we were at our worst, so that we could recognize the incredible fact that God's interest in us is based only on who we are, and not on our performance.
- God's love is not based on what we will become -- it's unconditional - it's based on what we mean to Him, right now.