

You Are Worth It!

John 3:16 - "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Many have arranged the thoughts of John 3:16 in different ways and under different headings, this is my favorite:

John 3:16:

For God = The Greatest One

so loved = The Greatest Degree

the world = The greatest amount of people

that He gave = The greatest generosity

His one and only (begotten) Son = The greatest uniqueness

that whoever = The greatest invitation

believes in Him = The greatest simplicity

shall not = The greatest certainty

perish = The greatest possible loss

but = The greatest difference

have = The greatest possession

eternal = The greatest length

life = The greatest gift

When we notice in John 3:16 the greatest generosity, it helps us to understand two things about God:

1. His character and nature: He is extravagantly generous!

Ephesians 1:7-8

7. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace
8. that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

2. The depth of God's care for us as demonstrated by His generosity.

Or said differently, it speaks of our value to God which caused Him to pay the greatest price for us!

John 3:16 makes abundantly clear our value to God, "For God so loved the world that..."

We are so often bombarded by the fact that we are sinners it makes it very difficult for some to grasp,

"How God could love someone like me?"

We are so often aware of our unworthiness that we can feel like we have no value!

I want to concentrate on the value we have to God!

What is "Value" determined by?

How do we determine a things value?

As we go through this list, you will see that by every standard of value, God loves us greatly!

Tell your neighbor... "You are worth it!"

In determining a thing's value, we usually use the following criteria:

I. The cost of labor and production for something determines its value!

Luke 14:28-30

28. "Suppose one of you wants to build a tower. Will he not first sit down and estimate the cost to see if he has enough money to complete it?"

29. For if he lays the foundation and is not able to finish it, everyone who sees it will ridicule him,

30. saying, `This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.'

Eph 1:4 - For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight...

Tell your neighbor... "You are worth it!

II. The price you are willing to pay for something determines its value!

1 Peter 1:18-19

18. 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 forefathers,

19. but with the precious blood of Christ, a lamb without blemish or defect.

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III. The amount of effort you are willing to go through to get something determines its value!

Phil. 2:5-8

5. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

6. Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped,

7. but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness.

8. And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death-- even death on a cross!

Is 53:3-7

3. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows, and familiar with suffering. Like one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

4. Surely he took up our infirmities and carried our sorrows, yet we considered him stricken by God, smitten by him, and afflicted.

5. But he was pierced for our transgressions, he was crushed for our iniquities; the punishment that brought us peace was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed.

6. We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

7. He was oppressed and afflicted, yet he did not open his mouth; he was led like a lamb to the slaughter, and as a sheep before her shearers is silent, so he did not open his mouth.

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IV. The amount of effort that is spent to keep something safe determines its value!

A. The indwelling Holy Spirit,

B. God gave us the scriptures.

Tell your neighbor... "You are worth it!"

V. The fact that a thief wants to steal something determines its value!

Tell your neighbor... "You are worth it!"

VI. The way you speak about something in terms of endearment determines its value!

Deuteronomy 32:10 - In a desert land he found him, in a barren and howling waste. He shielded him and cared for him; he guarded him as the apple of his eye,

Tell your neighbor... "You are worth it!"