

Fearfully and Wonderfully Made

Sunday, November 13, 2016

Psalm 139

Big Ideas

Briefly and Simply Stated – Relatively Easy to Grasp
Challenging to Live Out the Implications

You Are Valuable

“Taste” This – Ancient Poetry

Created – Psalm 139:13-18

Knowledge – Psalm 139:1-6

Presence – Psalm 139:7-12

Knowing vs Causing

Again! Not saying all is as God wants it

Why is this Hard?

Other Voices; Other Measurements of Value

Other People Are Valuable

An Obvious Implication

Others are valuable → People of Equal Value
Never finish working out the implications!

Why is this so hard?

People are “Pack Animals” – Us vs Them
Bible pushing at this ...

- Care for poor, weak, outcasts
- Welcome the stranger
- Use Power of Leaders to protect from oppression
- Jesus: Love your Neighbour ... Love your Enemy

Values

A Value System

Values – What is Important

God – Ultimate Value

People – Equal Value

Small Group Guide

Kicking off your Time Together

Ice Breaker

Share something about yourself others in the group are not likely to know.

Opening Prayer

Have one or two open in prayer asking God to be present and to direct your time.

What Did you Bring?

Did you bring anything to share to encourage the group?
(consider 1 Cor 14:26 as the pattern for this part of the meeting)

Read Passage

Read this passage: Psalm 139:1-18

Discuss a few of these questions:

What is stated in the Psalm about God’s knowledge of us? His presence with us?

Would it make you feel frightened or comforted to believe that God had this kind of knowledge of you and closeness to you? How did the Psalmist seem to feel about this?

It would be fair to say this Psalm assumes we are valuable because God made us and loves us. Where does your sense of “value” come from? What is valued in your family, group of friends, our culture at large?

How would believing that we – and others! – are of great value affect our day to day lives?

Pray for Each Other

In light of all that has been shared, pray for each other.
You may want to share specific requests.