Like Him: Valuing Others Pastor Dennis Rouse December 8-9, 2018

5 Core Values:

- 1. My success is determined by how centered my life is around the Lordship of Jesus Christ.
- 2. My family is a reflection of my relationship with Jesus Christ.
- 3. My chief personal pursuit is to develop my character to be like Jesus Christ.
- 4. My primary purpose is to help people change to be like Jesus Christ.
- 5. My goal is to value every life the same as Jesus Christ.

PHILIPPIANS 2:3-4 NIV

Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility VALUE OTHERS above yourselves, not looking to your own interests but each of you to the interests of THE OTHERS.

"If a person's scale of values is based solely on material wealth, he will have difficulty all his life. Do not pay much attention to fame, power or money. Someday you will meet someone who cares for none of these things, and then you will know how poor you really are!" — *Rudyard Kipling*

ISAIAH 55:8-9 NCV

The Lord says, "My thoughts are not like your thoughts. Your ways are not like my ways. Just as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts higher than your thoughts."

Learning to Value Others:

1. Valuing others begins with compassion.

Compassion: a willingness to allow yourself to feel the suffering of others

ZECHARIAH 7:8-10 NIV

And the word of the Lord came again to Zechariah: "This is what the Lord Almighty said: 'Administer true justice; show MERCY and COMPASSION to one another. Do not oppress the WIDOW or the FATHERLESS, the FOREIGNER or the POOR. Do not plot evil against each other."

2. Valuing others requires going through a value transformation.

LUKE 12:13-21 NIV

Someone in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me." Jesus replied, "Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?" Then he said to them, "Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions." And he told them this parable: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. He thought to himself, 'What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.' Then he said, 'This is what I'll do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry." But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."

LUKE 12:48b NLT

- "... When someone has been given much, much will be required in return; and when someone has been entrusted with much, even more will be required."
- 3. Valuing others asks the question, "What am I willing to sacrifice for others?"

2 CORINTHIANS 8:9 NLT

You know the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich.

2 CORINTHIANS 8:12-15 NLT

Whatever you give is acceptable if you give it eagerly. And give according to what you have, not what you don't have. Of course, I don't mean your giving should make life easy for others and hard for yourselves. I only mean that there should be some equality. Right now you have plenty and can help those who are in need. Later, they will have plenty and can share with you when you need it. In this way, things will be equal. As the Scriptures say, "Those who gathered a lot had nothing left over, and those who gathered only a little had enough."