

Volume 3 - Day 8: Behavior-Based Value

We often assess or determine a person's value based on their performance. Many would say that your measure of worth is the sum of your good behaviors minus your bad behaviors. Worse yet, you may live a life full of incredibly good things and commit one very bad deed and your value is associated only with the one bad thing you have done! How narrow minded! How mean! How negative! How ludicrous! How preposterous!

Whether you associate value with good behaviors or the absence of bad behaviors, this measure is faulty for still another very significant reason. Since every human being not only has the potential to behave badly, all human beings commit bad deeds from time to time. (Bad is when it is selfish to the harm of another.) So, if the measure of value of a person is behavior, no one has value. And if one big, bad deed negates all of the good, the quest for good behavior is futile at best and more likely bordering on insanity.

While we are busy condemning people for wrongful behavior, we ourselves are guilty of the same things. While we are busy trying to manage others' behaviors, our own judgment, condemns us if we will but look in the mirror. We are very quick to ask the courts for the maximum penalty for a crime committed against our children. Yet we beg for mercy if the villain is our own relative.

Think about this. If you truly love someone, you want to overlook their faults. If you truly love someone, you want to protect them from physical and emotional harm. If you truly love someone, you place high value on them. So, regardless of what we say about behavior-based value, the truth is that we actually determine another's value to us by how we treat them, not by how they treat us!

This is the essence of God's love. He places high value on every one of His children! That includes you! Believe it! Let God's love overwhelm you. This, and only this, will improve your behaviors toward others.

My Confirming Scripture: My Aligning Experiences:

DEEPER Every Day -- John Henry Alan