The Enduring Hunt for Personal Value

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"...their shared core hunger is for value. Once our basic needs are met, we human beings arguably crave value above all else. We each want desperately to matter, to feel a sense of worthiness."

-- Tony Schwartz

CHRIST
has set you
FREE

Freedom from Striving Gal 2:14-21

Justified

"Yet we know that no one is <u>justified</u> by the works of the law but by the faithfulness of Jesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we may be <u>justified</u> by the faithfulness of Christ and not by the works of the law, because by the works of the law no one will be <u>justified</u>."

Gal 2:16 NET

Justified

- Legal term – declaring someone not guilty

- It is an act of God

- By His mercy, not earned

- Not just pardoning someone – but seeing them as without fault/righteous

Judaizers taught...

- You are justified by hard work

- By fulfilling the law, moral and ceremonial

- It is the only way to be accepted by God

- At it's root – it's based on what I can do

The Gospel of Jesus...

- You are justified by faith in Jesus
- We have value and worth because of Jesus
- We are righteous because of Jesus
- Our identity is found in Jesus

The Power of the Gospel

The Power of the Gospel

"When I saw that they were not <u>following</u> the truth of the gospel message" Gal 2:14 NLT

There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus.
Gal 3:28 NLT

The Power of the Gospel

Is it transforming…

- Your relationship to your work?
- Your relationship to others?
- The way you think about the poor and marginalised?
- Your sex life?
- The way you spend money?

The Secret to It's Power

The Secret to It's Power

"it did not fuel any enduring sense of value. To the contrary, the fact that so much external success didn't deliver what I had always imagined it would, left me feeling empty and bewildered."

-- Tony Schwartz

The Secret to It's Power

19"For when I tried to keep the law, it condemned me. So I died to the law—I stopped trying to meet all its requirements—so that I might live for God. 20 My old self has been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me. So I live in this earthly body by trusting in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."

Gal 2:19-20 NLT

The Secret to It's Power

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Gal 2:19-20 NLT

The Secret to It's Power

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The Secret to It's Power

"*For to me, to live is Christ*"   Philippians 1:21 NIV

"*Christ who is your life.*"   Colossians 3:4 NIV

The Secret to It's Power

"Oh, foolish Galatians! Who has cast an evil spell on you? For the meaning of Jesus Christ's death was made as clear to you as if you had seen a picture of his death on the cross."
Gal 3:1 NLT