

>> SINGING: GOOD NEWS TODAY. NO MATTER WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD, THERE IS ALWAYS GOOD NEWS TODAY.

>> WELCOME TO GOOD NEWS TODAY, THE PROGRAM WHERE YOU WILL ALWAYS FIND GOOD NEWS, NO MATTER WHAT ELSE IS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD.

>> I'M MARK TESKE, YOUR HOST FOR GOOD NEWS TODAY. I WANT TO THANK YOU FOR JOINING US. WE'VE GOT A GREAT PROGRAM TODAY. WE'LL BEGIN WITH OUR DEVOTIONAL TIME. TODAY WE'LL BE LOOKING AT LUKE 24:24-27. GET OUT YOUR BIBLES, TURN TO LUKE 24. I'LL MEET YOU THERE IN JUST A MOMENT. FOLLOWING OUR DEVOTIONAL TIME, TROY SPRADLIN WILL BE TALKING ABOUT SPEED LIMITS. JIM DEARMAN WILL BE ASKING, WHICH ROAD WILL YOU TRAVEL? AND ROGER CAMPBELL WILL ANSWER, WOULD IT EVER BE RIGHT TO DISOBEY A GOVERNMENT LAW? ANTHONY DISMUKE AND TROY SPRADLIN ANSWER THE QUESTION, HOW DO WE UNDERSTAND PERSONAL VALUE FROM A BIBLICAL STANDPOINT? WE'VE GOT A LOT OF ROAD TO COVER, SO LET'S GET STARTED. WELL, I HOPE YOU HAVE YOUR BIBLES OPENED UP TO LUKE 24, WHERE WE READ BEGINNING AT VERSE 24, AND CERTAIN OF THOSE WHO WERE WITH US WENT TO THE TOMB AND FOUND IT JUST AS THE WOMEN HAD SAID; BUT HIM THEY DID NOT SEE. THEN HE SAID TO THEM, O FOOLISH ONES, AND SLOW OF HEART TO BELIEVE IN ALL THAT THE PROPHETS HAVE SPOKEN! OUGHT NOT THE CHRIST WHO HAVE SUFFERED THESE THINGS AND TO ENTER INTO HIS GLORY? AND BEGINNING AT MOSES AND ALL THE PROPHETS, HE EXPOUNDED TO THEM IN ALL THE SCRIPTURES THE THINGS CONCERNING HIMSELF.

>> (SINGING)

>> OUR TEXT FOR TODAY IN LUKE 24 OCCURS JUST AFTER JESUS WAS RAISED FROM THE DEAD. WE HAVE TWO DISCIPLES WHO ARE WALKING DOWN THE ROAD HEADED TO THE CITY CALLED EMMAUS WHEN THEY MEET A STRANGER ALONG THE WAY. THAT STRANGER TURNS OUT TO BE JESUS, BUT THEY DON'T REALIZE IT YET. AND AS THEY WERE WALKING, THEY WERE TALKING ABOUT THE EVENTS OF THE LAST SEVERAL DAYS. AND THIS STRANGER ASKED THEM ABOUT THEIR SAD CONVERSATION, WHY THEY WERE SO UPSET ABOUT THIS. ONE OF THEM THEN TELLS THE STORY OF JESUS' CRUCIFIXION AND SUBSEQUENT RESURRECTION. AND WE GET TO OUR TEXT. THE STRANGER, WHO IS JESUS, POINTS THEM TO THE SCRIPTURES THAT PROPHESED ABOUT THE DEATH AND RESURRECTION OF THE SAVIOR. HE GOES THROUGH WHAT WE KNOW OF AS THE OLD TESTAMENT AND SHOWS FROM THEM THAT ALL THE THINGS THAT THEY JUST EXPERIENCED WERE PROPHESED TO OCCUR. AND WHEN THEY GOT TO THE CITY OF EMMAUS, THEY CONVINCED JESUS - THEY DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS HIM YET - TO STAY WITH THEM AND HAVE A MEAL. THEN WHILE THEY WERE SAT DOWN TO HAVE THE MEAL, WHEN JESUS PRAYED FOR THAT MEAL, THEY RECOGNIZED WHO HE WAS; AND THEN IMMEDIATELY JESUS VANISHED FROM THEIR SIGHT. IT'S AN INTERESTING EXPERIENCE THEY HAD ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS. ONE THING THAT WE SEE HERE IS THAT THE SCRIPTURES HAVE A COMMON THREAD THAT PASSES ALL THE WAY THROUGH THE BIBLE. YOU SEE, BACK IN THE BOOK OF GENESIS AT THE VERY BEGINNING, WE SEE THE BEGINNINGS, AND IN CHAPTER THREE, WE SEE THE NEED FOR MAN TO BE RECONCILED TO GOD. WHEN ADAM AND EVE REBELLED AGAINST HIM, THAT'S WHEN THE PROBLEM STARTED. AND THEN FROM THERE, WE SEE GOD BUILDING A NATION FROM WHICH THE SAVIOR WOULD COME. IN GENESIS 12:1-3, WE SEE THAT PROMISE TO ABRAHAM: FROM YOU ALL NATIONS OF THE

WORLD SHALL BE BLESSED. AND CONTINUING ON, WE READ ABOUT FURTHER PROMISES AND PROPHECIES OF THIS MESSIAH WHO IS TO COME. YOU SEE, ALL OF THIS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT IS POINTING FORWARD TO WHAT'S GOING TO BE HAPPENING IN THE FUTURE. THEN WE GET TO THE GOSPEL ACCOUNTS, AND WE LEARN ABOUT THIS MESSIAH WHO HAD BEEN TALKED ABOUT BEFORE. JOHN LAYS FORTH A VERY CONVINCING ARGUMENT THAT JESUS IS INDEED THE CHRIST. MATTHEW IN HIS GOSPEL ACCOUNT BRINGS ALL THOSE OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES TO US TO HELP US UNDERSTAND. IN MARK, WE SEE THE POWER OF JESUS. LUKE SHOWS US THE COMPASSION OF JESUS. THEN WE GET TO THE BOOK OF ACTS, AND WE READ ABOUT THE BEGINNING OF HIS CHURCH. THIS WAS THE PLAN ALL ALONG. AND WE SEE THAT AFTER THAT THE LETTERS WRITTEN TO CHRISTIANS, THOSE WHO ARE ALREADY CHRISTIANS, ABOUT HOW TO LIVE A FAITHFUL LIFE. THIS WAS ALL ACCORDING TO THE ETERNAL PURPOSE WHICH HE ACCOMPLISHED IN CHRIST JESUS OUR LORD, EPHESIANS 3:11. SO THIS WAS GOD'S PLAN BEFORE THE FOUNDATION OF THE WORLD, EPHESIANS 1:4, THAT HE ACCOMPLISHED. JESUS DID EXACTLY WHAT HE SET OUT TO DO. AND THOSE MEN ON THE ROAD TO EMMAUS, WHEN JESUS EXPLAINED IT TO THEM, THEY COULD SEE FROM THE SCRIPTURES, YES, THIS WAS THE PLAN ALL ALONG. AND THAT PLAN HAS ALWAYS BEEN FOR MAN TO BE RECONCILED TO GOD. HE'S DONE THAT. HE'S DONE HIS PART. HAVE YOU DONE YOURS? THAT'S GOOD NEWS FOR US TODAY. WELL, IT'S TIME FOR US TO HEAD OVER TO THE WORKSHOP, WHERE TROY SPRADLIN IS REPAIRING OUR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT SPEED LIMITS.

>> LET'S SUPPOSE THAT YOU'RE DRIVING DOWN THE ROAD, AND SUDDENLY YOU REALIZE YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THE SPEED LIMIT IS. YOU'VE TRAVELED THAT ROAD MANY TIMES BEFORE, BUT JUST NEVER REALLY PAID ATTENTION TO WHAT THE SPEED MIGHT BE. LET'S ALSO ADD THAT YOU LOOK DOWN AT YOUR SPEEDOMETER, AND IT SAYS YOU'RE GOING ABOUT 50 MILES AN HOUR. SO NOW YOU KNOW EXACTLY HOW FAST YOU'RE GOING, BUT YOU SIMPLY JUST DON'T KNOW WHAT THE LAW IS FOR THAT PARTICULAR ROAD. YOU DON'T SEE A SIGN ANYWHERE, SO YOU JUST CONTINUE TO DRIVE THE SPEED THAT YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN DRIVING AND THAT YOU'RE DOING NOW. TO YOUR CONSCIENCE, THAT SEEMS RIGHT. AFTER ALL, IT'S WHAT YOU'VE ALWAYS DONE; AND SINCE THERE'S NOTHING SAYING OTHERWISE, YOU JUST GO ON ABOUT YOUR BUSINESS. NOW, LET'S SUPPOSE THAT A FEW DAYS LATER, YOU'RE TRAVELING DOWN THAT SAME ROAD, BUT THIS TIME THERE ARE SEVERAL LARGE, VERY EASY TO READ SIGNS THAT SAY SPEED LIMIT 35. THEY'VE BEEN POSTED ALL UP AND DOWN THE ROADWAY. SO WHAT DO YOU DO? DO YOU CONTINUE TO DRIVE THE SAME SPEED THAT YOU'VE ALWAYS DRIVEN BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT SEEMED RIGHT TO YOU, OR NOW THAT YOU KNOW WHAT THE LAW IS FOR THAT STREET, DO YOU START ABIDING BY THAT? IT'S A PRETTY SIMPLE CONCEPT TO UNDERSTAND. MEANS YOU HAVE TO MAKE A CHOICE: AND THAT IS TO OBEY OR NOT TO OBEY. AND THIS IS THE SAME CONCEPT THAT PAUL IS TRYING TO HELP THE BRETHREN UNDERSTAND AT THE CHURCH THAT IS IN ROME. YOU SEE, IN ROMANS 3:20, HE WRITES, FOR BY THE LAW IS THE KNOWLEDGE OF SIN. AND THEN IN ROMANS 7:7, HE EXPLAINS, I WOULD NOT HAVE KNOWN SIN EXCEPT THROUGH THE LAW; FOR I WOULD NOT HAVE KNOWN COVETOUSNESS UNLESS THE LAW HAD SAID, YOU SHALL NOT COVET. IT'S THE EXACT SAME APPLICATION AS THE SPEED LIMIT SIGN. YOU DIDN'T KNOW THAT YOU WERE BREAKING THE LAW BY SPEEDING UNTIL YOU WERE TOLD WHAT THE LAW WAS BY THAT SIGN. THE SIGN IS SIMPLY RELAYING THE MESSAGE OF THE LAWGIVER AND THE ONE WHO WILL ENFORCE THE LAW. IT'S IMPLYING THAT IF YOU WANT TO AVOID BEING PULLED OVER BY THE POLICE AND

THEN HAVE TO APPEAR BEFORE A JUDGE, WELL, HERE'S WHAT YOU MUST DO: DRIVE NO FASTER THAN 35 MPH ON THAT PARTICULAR ROAD. SIMPLE, RIGHT? WELL, THE BIBLE RELAYS A SIMILAR MESSAGE TO US ABOUT WHAT THE LAWGIVER AND THE ONE WHO WILL ENFORCE IT EXPECTS FROM US. HE EXPECTS US TO OBEY HIS COMMANDS, ACTS 5:29, JOHN 14:15, 1ST JOHN 2:3-5. AND IF WE DON'T, WE'RE GOING TO FACE PUNISHMENT, JUST LIKE PAUL SAYS IN ROMANS 2:16. WE COULD CONTINUE TO EXPAND THIS ANALOGY THAT WE HAVE BY SUPPOSING THAT THERE HAD BEEN SOME PEOPLE WHO JUST NATURALLY FOLLOW THE LAW AND WERE ALREADY DRIVING 35 MPH EVEN THOUGH THEY DIDN'T HAVE THE SIGNS. THAT'S KIND OF THE IDEA BEHIND ROMANS 2:14. BUT NOW THAT THEY HAVE THE SIGNS AND THEY'VE BEEN POSTED, THEY TOO MUST KEEP THE LAW OR FACE THE CONSEQUENCES. THEY CANNOT APPEAL BACK TO A TIME BEFORE THE LAW WAS GIVEN, BECAUSE THAT LAW OR THAT AGREEMENT IS NOW OLD AND HAS BEEN PUT AWAY, JUST LIKE COLOSSIANS 2:14 SAYS. THERE'S A NEW LAW THAT WE MUST FOLLOW. AND NO ONE TODAY HAS THE AUTHORITY TO CHANGE THE SIGNS. YOU CAN'T ADD TO IT OR TAKE AWAY FROM IT, LIKE REVELATION 22:18-19 SAYS, EVEN THOUGH THERE WILL STILL BE PEOPLE WHO WILL TRY TO SAY YOU DON'T HAVE TO OBEY WHAT THE SIGN SAYS. YET DESPITE ALL THAT, LET'S ALSO SUPPOSE THAT YOU'RE KIND OF LIKE WHAT WE READ IN HEBREWS 5:11 THAT SAYS YOU HAVE BECOME DULL OF HEARING AND JUST DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND THE LAW, SO YOU KEEP BREAKING IT. EVEN AFTER SEVERAL POLICEMEN HAVE WARNED YOU, IT STILL HASN'T QUITE SUNK IN THAT IF YOU KEEP BREAKING THE LAW, YOU'RE GOING TO BE PUNISHED, ROMANS 3:21 AND 6:16. AFTER A WHILE, THE JUDGE DECIDES TO SEND HIS OWN SON OUT TO GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE TO FOLLOW, AND HE GIVES HIM ALL AUTHORITY OF THE LAW, KIND OF LIKE WHAT WE READ IN MATTHEW 28:18. SO HIS SON EXPLAINS THE LAW TO YOU IN DETAIL USING LANGUAGE THAT YOU CAN FULLY RELATE TO. HE THEN DRIVES DOWN THE SAME STREET THAT YOU'VE BEEN DRIVING DOWN USING A VEHICLE JUST LIKE YOURS AND FOLLOWS THE LAW PERFECTLY WITHOUT FAULT, HEBREWS 4:15. SO YOU HEARD HIM, YOU LEARNED FROM HIS EXAMPLE, AND NOW YOU KNOW EXACTLY WHAT IT IS YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO DO. SO IF YOU GO AND BREAK THE LAW AGAIN, KNOWING WHAT YOU KNOW NOW, WILL THE JUDGE EXCUSE YOU FOR YOUR IGNORANCE? I THINK YOU KNOW THE ANSWER. JESUS HIMSELF SAID THIS CONCERNING GOD'S WILL, THAT IS, HIS LAW IN JOHN 15:22, IF I HAD NOT COME AND SPOKEN TO THEM, THEY WOULD HAVE NO SIN; BUT NOW THEY HAVE NO EXCUSE FOR THEIR SIN. I HOPE THIS LITTLE ANALOGY WILL HELP US REPAIR OUR UNDERSTANDING ABOUT WHAT GOD EXPECTS FROM US CONCERNING HIS WILL.

>> THANKS FOR THAT GREAT ILLUSTRATION, TROY. WE'RE ABOUT TO GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO ENROLL IN OUR FREE BIBLE COURSE. THEN JIM DEARMAN IS GOING TO JOIN US.

>> YOU MAY HAVE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS ABOUT GOOD NEWS TODAY. WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU. OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE FREE BIBLE STUDY MATERIALS, PLEASE CONTACT US. OUR MAILING ADDRESS IS GOOD NEWS TODAY, P.O. BOX 206, DUNLAP, TENNESSEE, 37327. AGAIN, THAT'S GOOD NEWS TODAY, P.O. BOX 206, DUNLAP, TENNESSEE, 37327. YOU MAY PREFER TO E-MAIL US AT GOODNEWSTODAYTV@GMAIL.COM. THAT'S GOODNEWSTODAYTV@GMAIL.COM. OR CALL US TOLL-FREE AT 1-877-384-7221. THAT'S 1-877-384-7221. WE'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM YOU. HEARING FROM OUR AUDIENCE IS ALWAYS GOOD NEWS TO US.

>> THE EASIEST WAY TO ENROLL IN OUR BIBLE COURSE IS ON OUR WEBSITE AT GNTTV.ORG. NOW HERE'S JIM DEARMAN WITH SOME SOUND WORDS FOR US ABOUT THE ROAD WE TRAVEL.

>> IN MATTHEW 7:13-14, JESUS URGES US TO ENTER BY THE NARROW GATE, FOR WIDE IS THE GATE AND BROAD IS THE WAY THAT LEADS TO DESTRUCTION, AND THERE ARE MANY WHO GO IN BY IT; BECAUSE NARROW IS THE GATE AND DIFFICULT IS THE WAY WHICH LEADS TO LIFE, AND THERE ARE FEW WHO FIND IT. A POET PENNED THESE WORDS ABOUT THE LORD'S ADMONITION: THE EASY ROADS ARE CROWDED AND THE LEVEL ROADS ARE JAMMED, THE PLEASANT LITTLE RIVERS WITH THE DRIFTING FOLKS ARE CRAMMED; BUT OFF YONDER WHERE IT'S ROCKY WHERE YOU GET A BETTER VIEW, YOU WILL FIND THE RANKS ARE THINNING AND THE TRAVELERS ARE FEW. WHERE THE GOING'S SMOOTH AND PLEASANT, YOU WILL ALWAYS FIND THE THROG; FOR THE MANY, MORE'S THE PITY, SEEM TO LIKE TO DRIFT ALONG. BUT THE STEPS THAT CALL FOR COURAGE AND THAT TASK THAT'S HARD TO DO IN THE END RESULTS IN GLORY FOR THE NEVER WAVERING FEW. THOUGH THE CHRISTIAN LIFE INVOLVES SACRIFICE AND HARDSHIP AT TIMES, IT IS STILL AS JESUS DECLARED IN JOHN 10:10, THE ABUNDANT LIFE HERE AND HEREAFTER. WHICH ROAD ARE YOU TRAVELING?

>> THANKS, JIM. OUR APPS ARE AN EXCELLENT PLACE TO GET A DAILY DOSE OF GOOD NEWS. THEY'RE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR PHONE, TELEVISION, OR TABLET. JUST LOOK FOR GOOD NEWS TODAY IN THE APP STORE AND DOWNLOAD IT FOR FREE. ROGER CAMPBELL ANSWERS THE QUESTION, WOULD IT EVER BE RIGHT TO DISOBEY A GOVERNMENT LAW? BE READY ALWAYS.

>> IN OUR IMPERFECT WORLD, WOULD IT EVER BE ACCEPTABLE TO DISOBEY A CIVIL LAW, WHETHER IT BE IN OUR LOCAL AREA, IN OUR PROVINCE OR STATE OR A NATIONAL LAW? YOU KNOW, AS CHRISTIANS, GOD WANTS US TO BE READY TO GIVE A DEFENSE OR GIVE AN ANSWER, 1ST PETER 3:15. WELL, IN THE CHAPTER THAT PRECEDES THAT, IN 1ST PETER CHAPTER 2, THERE ARE INSTRUCTIONS FOR CHRISTIANS ABOUT THEIR RESPONSIBILITY AS CITIZENS IN AN EARTHLY KINGDOM IN 1ST PETER 2:13. THE BIBLE SAYS, SUBMIT YOURSELVES TO EVERY ORDINANCE OF MAN FOR THE LORD'S SAKE, WHETHER IT BE TO THE KING AS SUPREME OR UNTO GOVERNORS AS UNTO THEM THAT ARE SENT BY HIM FOR THE PUNISHMENT OF EVILDOERS AND FOR THE PRAISE OF THEM THAT DO WELL. AND AS WE CONTINUE READING DOWN INTO VERSE 17 OF 1ST PETER 2, THE MESSAGE IS TO FEAR THE KING. AND SO PETER WAS WRITING TO CHRISTIANS WHO LIVED IN THE FIRST CENTURY. AND HE TELLS THEM, LOOK, IT'S OUR RESPONSIBILITY AS GOD'S CHILDREN TO KEEP OR SUBMIT TO EVERY ORDINANCE OF MAN. HE'S NOT TALKING ABOUT RELIGIOUS ORDINANCES; HE'S TALKING ABOUT CIVIL GOVERNMENT. AND HE SAID WE DO IT AT THE HIGHER LEVEL IF THERE'S A KING; WE DO IT AT THE MEDIUM OR LOWER LEVELS IF THERE'S A GOVERNMENT. WHAT'S THE PURPOSE OF A CIVIL GOVERNMENT? A CIVIL GOVERNMENT EXISTS TO PROVIDE STABILITY AND SECURITY AND LAW FOR A SOCIETY. AND THE RIGHTS OF CIVIL GOVERNMENT TO EXIST IS SET FORTH IN ROMANS 13:1, THAT EVERY PERSON IS TO BE SUBJECT UNTO THE HIGHER POWERS. AND PAUL GOES ON TO WRITE IN VERSE NUMBER 2 THAT WHEN ONE RESISTS THE POWER OR THE LAW, HE'S ACTUALLY RESISTING THE GOD OF HEAVEN. SO THAT BRINGS US BACK TO OUR QUESTION. WOULD IT EVER BE RIGHT FOR A PERSON NOT TO OBEY THE LAWS OF THE LAND? WE HAVE SOME BIBLE EXAMPLES OF THAT. IN EXODUS CHAPTER 1, BECAUSE THE POPULATION OF THE

ISRAELITES WAS GROWING EXCEEDINGLY, PHARAOH, THE KING OF EGYPT LAID DOWN THE LAW. AND THE LAW WAS, WHEN THOSE HEBREW BOYS ARE BORN, PUT THEM TO DEATH. THE BIBLE TELLS US THAT THERE WERE MIDWIVES WHO REFUSED TO DO THAT. THEY WOULDN'T OBEY THE LAW OF THE LAND. IT'S IN EXODUS 2 WE READ ABOUT THE BIRTH OF MOSES. AND HIS MOTHER AND FATHER, THEY WOULDN'T PUT HIM TO DEATH, BUT THEY PROTECTED HIM. OR PERHAPS WE THINK MORE ABOUT DANIEL CHAPTER 3, HANANIAH, MISHAEL AND AZARIAH. WHEN NEBUCHADNEZZAR, THE KING OF BABYLON, GAVE THE CHARGE ON A CERTAIN DAY WHEN THE MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS SOUND TO BOW DOWN AND WORSHIP HIS IDOL, THEY WOULDN'T DO IT. THEY KNEW THERE WERE CONSEQUENCES, BUT THEY REFUSED TO DISOBEY GOD. AND THEN IN DANIEL 6, UNDER A NEW REGIME, THE MEDO-PERSIANS, THE LAW WAS FOR THE NEXT 30 DAYS, YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED TO MAKE A REQUEST OF ANY GOD. DANIEL KEPT ON PRAYING TO THE GOD OF HEAVEN JUST LIKE HE HAD. SO THERE ARE THREE INSTANCES WHERE PEOPLE SAW THAT WHAT HUMANS DEMANDED, IT WAS DIFFERENT FROM WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS. AND SO A PRINCIPAL VERSE WOULD BE ACTS 5:29, NOT TALKING ABOUT CIVIL LAW, BUT MANMADE INSTRUCTIONS, WE OUGHT TO OBEY WHOM? GOD RATHER THAN MEN. SO OUR COMMITMENT IS DO WHAT GOD SAYS. AND THAT MEANS IF CIVIL LAW CONFLICTS WITH IT, WE'RE GOING TO GO WITH WHAT GOD SAYS. I'M ROGER CAMPBELL, AND THIS HAS BEEN BE READY ALWAYS.

>> THANKS, ROGER. WE'VE GOT A GREAT WAY FOR YOU TO START EVERY DAY, AND THAT'S WITH THE GOOD NEWS TODAY DAILY DEVOTIONAL TIME PODCAST. JUST SEARCH FOR IT WHEREVER YOU GET YOUR PODCASTS. IN JUST A MOMENT, WE'LL GIVE OUR BIBLE QUESTION TO ANTHONY DISMUKE AND TROY SPRADLIN.

>> (SINGING)

>> NOW WE HAVE A BIBLE QUESTION FOR ANTHONY AND TROY: HOW DO WE UNDERSTAND PERSONAL VALUE FROM A BIBLICAL STANDPOINT?

>> ALL RIGHT. THE QUESTION WE HAVE FOR TODAY IS, HOW DO WE UNDERSTAND PERSONAL VALUE FROM A BIBLICAL STANDPOINT? MEANING LIKE THINGS OF SELF-ESTEEM, WE'RE TALKING ABOUT ALTERING THE BODY, ET CETERA. YOU KNOW, THINGS OF PERSONAL, HOW DO WE UNDERSTAND THAT FROM A BIBLICAL STANDPOINT?

>> WELL, WHAT A HEARTFELT QUESTION, YOU KNOW, BECAUSE THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE TODAY THAT STRUGGLE WITH SELF-ESTEEM AND PERSONAL VALUE AND THINGS LIKE THAT. BUT, YOU KNOW, THE BIBLE TELLS US A LOT ABOUT THAT. GOD HAS REVEALED TO US THAT WE ARE INDEED VALUABLE TO HIM. FIRST OF ALL, DON'T FORGET, WE'RE MADE IN HIS IMAGE, GENESIS 1:24-26. BUT ALSO, I LOVE THIS PASSAGE IN 2ND CORINTHIANS 4:7 THAT SAYS, BUT WE HAVE THIS TREASURE IN EARTHEN VESSELS, THAT THE EXCELLENCE OF THE POWER MAY BE OF GOD AND NOT IN US. YOU KNOW, ANTHONY, WE NEED TO REMEMBER THAT WE'RE HERE FOR A REASON. GOD CREATED US FOR A REASON. AND WHILE WE ARE FRAGILE IN THIS BODY THAT WE HAVE THAT HE EVEN GOES ON TO CALL A TENT, IT'S STILL VALUABLE. HOW VALUABLE? WE'RE WORTH ONE JESUS.

>> YEAH. AND THAT'S SOMETHING THAT YOU REALLY HIT ON, TOUCHED ON ALREADY, GENESIS 1. UNDERSTAND THAT WE ARE MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD. BUT WHAT PART OF OUR BEING IS MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD?

>> OH, GOOD QUESTION.

>> IN SPIRIT, RIGHT?

>> THAT'S RIGHT.

>> THE WORD PERSON IS THAT OF WHICH IS MADE IN THE IMAGE OF GOD. AND SO SOMETIMES WE GET SO CAUGHT UP WITH HIS EXTERIOR. NUMBER ONE, YOU'RE MADE, THE MOST PERFECT, ALL-KNOWING, OMNISCIENT, THAT BEING MADE YOU, FIRST OF ALL. HE THOUGHT ENOUGH OF YOU TO CREATE YOU. THAT SAYS PLENTY ABOUT YOU. AND HE MADE YOU IN HIS IMAGE. SO UNDERSTANDING WHO HE IS AND WE BEING LIKEWISE MADE IN HIS IMAGE, THAT MAKES US OF GREAT IMPORTANCE. THEN YOU HAVE TO THINK OF IT ABOUT CREATION. THINK ABOUT CREATION. EVERYTHING IN THIS WORLD IS MADE FOR US. IT'S MADE FOR YOU. IT'S MADE FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT. ONE OF MY FRIENDS EXPLAINED IT TO ME LIKE THIS. HE SAYS, THINK ABOUT A FISH TANK. THINK ABOUT A FISH TANK. IF YOU'VE EVER HAD ONE, WHAT DO YOU DO? YOU PUT ALL THE THINGS IN THE FISH TANK BEFORE THE FISH EVER COMES, RIGHT? YOU PUT THE WATER, YOU PUT THE ROCKS, YOU PUT EVERYTHING IN THERE, AND YOU'RE PREPPING IT, YOU'RE MAKING SURE THE WATER IS AT THE RIGHT TEMPERATURE, YOU'RE MAKING SURE EVERYTHING IS LAID OUT PERFECT, AND THEN THE FISH. BECAUSE THE WHOLE FISH TANK IS INTENDED.

>> AND THAT'S WHAT GOD DID FOR US.

>> THAT'S WHAT GOD DID FOR US. AND SO, YOU KNOW, PEOPLE HAVE DEFECTS IN LIFE WITH THEIR EXTERIOR BODY, RIGHT? AND PEOPLE ARE BORN WITH THEM, SOME PEOPLE JUST GET THEM LATER ON THROUGHOUT LIFE. BUT NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO YOU, GOD IS STILL IN LOVE WITH THAT INNER BEING, RIGHT?

>> THAT'S RIGHT.

>> WE'RE NOT ATTACHED TO THIS PHYSICAL BODY. IT'S ALL ABOUT THAT INNER PERSON, HOW BEAUTIFUL IS THAT INDIVIDUAL, YOU KNOW. AND THAT'S WHERE GOD IS MOST WELL PLEASED AND THAT'S WHERE HIS LOVE GROWS EVEN MORE FOR US. YOU THINK ABOUT A SPOUSE. YOU THINK ABOUT A SPOUSE, RIGHT? MAYBE AT THE TIME THAT YOU GOT MARRIED, YOU HAD ALL OF YOUR MEMBERS; BUT MAYBE LET'S SAY YOU LOSE SOME OF YOUR MEMBERS ALONG THE WAY. SHOULD YOUR SPOUSE STOP LOVING YOU BECAUSE YOU LOST THOSE MEMBERS?

>> THAT'S A GOOD ANALOGY. THAT'S A VERY GOOD ANALOGY.

>> NO, THEY DON'T. THEY ARE IN LOVE WITH THAT INWARD PERSON.

>> THAT'S RIGHT. I THINK THE PSALMIST SAID IT SO WELL WHENEVER HE SAYS, I WILL PRAISE YOU, FOR I AM FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE. MARVELOUS ARE YOUR WORKS THAT MY SOUL KNOWS SO WELL. WELL, WE ARE ONE

OF THOSE WORKS. AND SO WE ARE FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE. SO DO WE STRUGGLE WITH SELF-ESTEEM AND THINGS LIKE THAT? ABSOLUTELY. BUT GOD LOVES US SO MUCH THAT HE SENT HIS ONLY BEGOTTEN SON FOR US.

>> HE SENT HIS ONLY SON. HE REFERS TO US AS HIS CHILDREN AS WELL.

>> THAT'S RIGHT.

>> SO THAT SHOWS PLENTY OF LOVE THAT GOD HAS FOR US.

>> AMEN.

>> WE'VE TRAVELED DOWN SOME INTERESTING ROADS IN OUR STUDY TODAY, AND WE HOPE THAT YOUR ROAD BRINGS YOU TO THE WORD OF GOD. STUDY AND CHECK EVERYTHING THAT ANYBODY TRIES TO TEACH YOU ABOUT RELIGIOUS MATTERS. CHECK IT IN THE WORD OF GOD, SEE IF THESE THINGS ARE SO. BE LIKE THOSE BEREANS IN ACTS 17:11 AND SEARCH THE SCRIPTURE DAILY. TEST THESE THINGS, WHETHER THEY ARE FROM GOD, 1ST JOHN 4:1. IF YOU'D LIKE TO WATCH OR HEAR OUR PROGRAM AGAIN AND CHECK US, YOU CAN DO THAT THROUGH OUR WEBSITE, THROUGH OUR APPS, OR OUR PODCAST. IF YOU HAVE A QUESTION, CONTACT US. WE'D LOVE TO ANSWER IT FOR YOU. REMEMBER THAT WE LOVE YOU, WE'RE PRAYING FOR YOU, AND WE WANT YOU TO MAKE IT TO HEAVEN.

>> SINGING: GOOD NEWS TODAY