



October 13 – The Abundant Life...You're Not THAT Important

Everyone wants the front seat (except at church!). We will pay top dollar to get the “best seats in the house”. We want to sit up front, so we can see and be seen. Sometimes we want others to think we're important. Some of us work really hard to have power and status. It's important to make our mark in the world, right? Join us this weekend as we address these ideas and more as we seek to understand what it means to be important in God's eyes!

Scripture:

Hebrews 13:1-2, 5-9

Keep on loving each other as brothers and sisters.^[a] ² Don't forget to show hospitality to strangers, for some who have done this have entertained angels without realizing it! ³ Remember those in prison, as if you were there yourself. Remember also those being mistreated, as if you felt their pain in your own bodies...Don't love money; be satisfied with what you have. For God has said, “I will never fail you. I will never abandon you.” ⁶ So we can say with confidence, “The Lord is my helper, so I will have no fear. What can mere people do to me?” ⁷ Remember your leaders who taught you the word of God. Think of all the good that has come from their lives and follow the example of their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever. ⁹ So do not be attracted by strange, new ideas. Your strength comes from God's grace, not from rules...

Luke 14:7-11

⁷ When Jesus noticed that all who had come to the dinner were trying to sit in the seats of honor near the head of the table, he gave them this advice: ⁸ “When you are invited to a wedding feast, don't sit in the seat of honor. What if someone who is more distinguished than you has also been invited? ⁹ The host will come and say, ‘Give this person your seat.’ Then you will be embarrassed, and you will have to take whatever seat is left at the foot of the table! ¹⁰ “Instead, take the lowest place at the foot of the table. Then when your host sees you, he will come and say, ‘Friend, we have a better place for you!’ Then you will be honored in front of all the other guests. ¹¹ For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.”

Questions:

- Have you ever felt you wanted to be better at something than someone else? More accomplished? How can you take steps to set aside that feeling of wanting to be better than others?
- What would it look like to use our accomplishments for the sake of blessing other people?
- Should we be proud of our God-given talents, skills, and gifts? Do they not matter? How do you think God wants you to use your talents, skills, and gifts?

Reading for the Week:

Monday: Romans 12:3-8

Tuesday: Proverbs 16:18

Wednesday: Matthew 18:1-4

Thursday: Philippians 2:3

Friday: James 1:26