

5 Values for Every Christian | Christian Basics for Jr. High

#2

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Every person has values they live by. Maybe you value family, security, honesty, or humor. Those are all great values. The Bible upholds a number of different values that we should have as Christians. Here are five values that every Christian needs to know.

Value #1: People

People are important to God. He created them, and he loves them. People are important to Christians too. Every person is valuable because every person is made in the image of God.

Genesis 1:27 *So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.*

As you read the creation account in Genesis, you find that there is something unique about people. People have a special connection to God. We have the ability to reflect God more than animals, plants, or anything else. This is what it means to be made in the image of God. As a result, people are valuable. You should love people more than you love your stuff or your own comfort. In fact, this verse teaches us that we should love everyone, no matter who they are.

Value #2: Truth

We believe in God and the Bible because it's true. Christianity isn't a fable. It's not a fairytale that we wished was true. The things in the Bible actually happened in history.

1 Corinthians 15:3-5 *I passed on to you what was most important and what had also been passed on to me. Christ died for our sins, just as the Scriptures said. 4 He was buried, and he was raised from the dead on the third day, just as the Scriptures said. 5 He was seen by Peter and then by the Twelve.*

This is a fascinating passage. The main story in Christianity, the death and resurrection of Jesus, is anchored in history. Jesus actually died on the cross and rose from the dead. After this, he was seen by a whole group of different people. This is a true story from history. And not only is this story true, but the whole Bible is true because it comes from God. As a result, we value what is true.

Value #3: Authenticity

Christians don't have to pretend to be perfect. We've been saved by grace. Salvation is not based on anything we do. Therefore, we can be authentic with our victories and our failures.

1 Samuel 16:7 *But the Lord said to Samuel, "Don't judge by his appearance or height, for I have rejected him. The Lord doesn't see things the way you see them. People judge by outward*

| appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart.”

God doesn't get wowed by how we look on the outside. He doesn't get wowed by our words to others, or showy displays of spirituality. God cares about our hearts. So, be honest in your relationships. Don't fake it until you make it. Be open with people about your struggles and your successes.

Value #4: Leadership

Jesus was the ultimate example of a leader. And he raised up his disciples to be leaders. And God is still raising up people to be leaders. Leaders are crucial for growing God's kingdom, building healthy churches, and reaching the next generation with God's love.

Hebrews 13:17 (NIV) *Have confidence in your leaders and submit to their authority, because they keep watch over you as those who must give an account. Do this so that their work will be a joy, not a burden, for that would be of no benefit to you.*

Every Christian has a responsibility to follow their leaders. God puts leaders into your life for a reason. He will use your leaders to help you grow and equip you for ministry. Leaders aren't supposed to dominate you, but serve you. Even if you are a leader, God calls you to follow your leaders.

Value #5: Risk-Taking

Christians talk a lot about faith. We must have faith to come to Jesus, but we must also have faith as we continue to live for God.

Matthew 19:26 *Jesus looked at them intently and said, “Humanly speaking, it is impossible. But with God everything is possible.”*

The context of this verse is saving faith, but it teaches us a larger principle. With God, all things are possible. So, we take big risks believing that God will come through for us. We trust God to help us in accomplishing great things: mentoring others, leading people to faith, starting a small group, and many other acts of faith that we are called to do.

Discussion Questions:

1. *Watch the video together or invite someone to summarize the topic.*
2. *What is your initial reaction to this video? Do you disagree with any of it? What jumped out at you?*
3. *What are some of your most important values? What were some of the values that your family had growing up?*
4. *Read [Genesis 1:27](#). List some examples from the Bible and your life that demonstrate how God values people.*
5. *Why is authenticity important in your relationships with God and others? Have you ever been part of a church or religion where people weren't authentic? How did that experience make you feel?*
6. *Read [Hebrews 13:17](#). What does it mean to submit to leaders in the church?*

7. *Have you ever taken any risks for God? Explain what happened. Why do you think God wants us to take risks?*
8. *Write a personal action step based on this conversation.*