

MADE FOR SOMETHING MORE**I Am Wonderfully Made**

Psalm 139:1-6,13-18

THE POINT:
*Every life counts—
including mine.***THE BIBLE MEETS LIFE**

Culture gives lip service to the value of life, but we deem some people more important because of what they contribute to society. Even on a personal level, we may feel more or less valued based on what we do in our church, workplace, or community. And society sends this skewed message about the unborn, disabled, and elderly. Psalm 139 points us to an all-knowing, all-loving God who values each one of us.

► **What is something you've made with your own hands?**

INTRO

On January 22, 1973, the Supreme Court ruled that freedom included a person's right to have an abortion. Many celebrated this as a freedom for choice, while others criticized it as the license to take a life. The focus of this debate centers on whether or not a child that isn't yet born has any value. But who assigns a person's value? Is it the government, the parents, or someone else? The truth is that a person's value is assigned by the One who created us! God our Creator sees us with great value, a value others may dismiss or ignore. But every person matters—you matter—and we honor God when we value life as He does.

PSALM 139:1-6

We may be able to hide certain aspects of our lives from others, even those who are closest to us like our parents or friends. But one thing is for sure—we can't hide from God! He has searched us and He knows us:

- God knows us even better than we know ourselves.
- God knows what we're going to do even before we do it.
- God knows not only every word we say, but even our thoughts and intentions.

There are plenty of things about every one of us that we should not necessarily be proud of. Because God is all-knowing, He knows those things too, which makes the fact that He loves us that much more amazing! In fact, because He loves us so much, He sent Jesus, His One and only Son, to save us (John 3:16; Rom. 5:8).

► **How does it make you feel to know that God is aware of every aspect of your life?**

PSALM 139:13-16

As David takes time to think about his own life, he can't help but praise God because he's "remarkably and wonderfully made." This means:

- The creator who spoke the universe into existence created people as the best of His creation.
- God knew us even before we were in our mothers' wombs.
- He planned all our days before we were even conceived.
- He made each person special and with unique purposes.

This certainly doesn't mean we're perfect by the world's standards. It does mean, however, that from the day we're conceived, God sees us, knows us, and values us. And there's no greater value than being known and loved by God!

► **Where in our culture do we see life being devalued or disrespected?**

PSALM 139:17-18

When we think of knowing the God who created the heavens and earth, it can seem overwhelming. He is all powerful and His thoughts are so great that we can't even begin to comprehend them. David recognized this, but rather than intimidation, he saw God's thoughts as precious. David used a word that literally means "heavy" or "costly." It was a word used to describe the weightiness of precious metals. The heavier something was, the more valuable it was, and David saw the thoughts of God as highly valuable. Our affections for others may be seen as a one way street, but the One who is truly great cherishes each person He has made. And though He is greater than us in every way, He chooses to relate to us. After all, He loves us!

► **How does knowing we are fearfully and wonderfully made impact the way you see yourself and others?**



LIVE IT OUT

▶ CHRIST

From creation, God's design was that children would be born to married parents who would raise them in love and according to God's standards. However, our rebellion brought sin's curse, and God's design for the family has been damaged. Some families are still a picture of God's plan, but many look nothing like it, even to the point of would-be parents choosing to abort babies. People born within the context of families that don't necessarily reflect God's desires may ask questions like, "Does anyone really love me?" or "Does my life have a purpose?"

Here's the beautiful truth: whether or not your parents planned you, God did! You are not an accident, and long before you were conceived by your parents, you were conceived in the mind of God.

➤ **How does knowing this affect your perspective on your relationship with God?**

➤ **Write a brief prayer of worship based on this truth.**

▶ COMMUNITY

Scripture memorization is an amazing way of growing closer to God. This week, take time to memorize Psalm 139:13-14.

➤ **Get together this week with someone in your group, and share these memorized verses with each other.**

➤ **Make it a point to meditate on the passage every day, and at the end of the week, journal your thoughts about how it not only impacts how you see yourself, but how you see those around you.**

▶ CULTURE

There are many people in our communities that struggle with the idea that they were created with a purpose, that they're incredibly valuable, and that God truly loves them. Create a list of ideas as to how you can help others in your community see the truth in Psalm 139, that every life including theirs matters. Pick one and live it out this week.

➤ **Serve at a Christian pregnancy center.**

➤ **Serve in a special needs class at your church or school.**



BIBLE READING PLAN



DAY 1
PSALM 139:1-12

DAY 2
PSALM 139:13-24

DAY 3
ISAIAH 44:21-28

DAY 4
PSALM 71:1-6

DAY 5
JEREMIAH 1:1-9

DAY 6
GALATIANS 1:11-17

DAY 7
EPHESIANS 1:1-10