



Sermon Notes: Right-Side Up Values

1. Countercultural people.

- a. Are not driven by wealth, but are okay with poverty.
- b. Are not driven by indulgence, but are okay with hunger.
- c. Are not driven by fun, but are okay with grieving.
- d. Are not driven by the praise of people, but are okay with persecution.

2. Countercultural actions.

Love is not a sentimental feeling, but a sacrificial action for the good of another.

- a. Doing good to those who hate you.
- b. Blessing those who curse you.
- c. Praying for those abuse you.
- d. Benefitting those who can't repay you.
- e. Following The Golden Rule toward all.

3. Countercultural God.

- a. God is merciful and kind to the undeserving.
- b. He gives His children the power to be like Him.

4. Countercultural reward.



Application Questions: Right-Side Up Values

1. Instead of descending into anxiety, anger, accusations, and arguments this week (especially in reaction to the political/cultural climate), how did you walk in faith, justice, mercy, and humility?
2. What types of people do political/cultural leaders tend to favor? Why them?
3. What are the first few words that come to mind when you think of the types of people Jesus pronounced blessings upon? What words do you associate with the types of people he pronounced woes upon?
4. What is it about Jesus that allows/causes him to prefer the needy over the self-satisfied?
5. Who do you love? What does it mean to you that you love these people (be it a spouse, a child, a best friend, etc.)? Give a list of synonyms and short phrases to describe this love?
6. Looking at your answers to #5, does this kind of love hold up to the “love your enemies” test? If not, what kind of love would?
7. Think of someone who is your enemy (at least in the sense that they are hostile toward you and make your life difficult).
 - What does he/she need? What good could you do toward him/her this week?
 - What’s one nice (honest) thing you could say about him/her?
 - What, specifically, could you pray for him/her?
8. Think about a life of wealth, indulgence, fun, and affirmation.
 - What are some ways people seek their identity in these things?
 - What are some ways people seek their sense of security in these things?
 - What are some ways people seek their ultimate satisfaction in these things?
9. What are some practical ways you could seek your identity, your sense of security, and your ultimate satisfaction in God alone?
10. What one thing does God want you to do in response to His Word this week?