

Feeling Unloved

In the Dilbert cartoon there is a character named Dogbert who is the evil human resources director for the company where Dilbert works. For those of you that are unfamiliar with Dogbert, here is a quote that pretty much summarizes how he feels about people - specifically his employees. As he put it, "I'm tired of calling employees resources. It's too complimentary. I'm thinking of something along the lines of livestock or human capital."

Sometimes it is difficult to feel loved. Our employers make life difficult for us and keep us in a state of disequilibrium.

Even the mild mannered Peanuts cartoon character Charlie Brown expressed his frustration with how hard it can be to love others when he told his friend Linus, "I love mankind; its people I can't stand."

And in the midst of this we have a Savior who loves us completely even when we think we are unlovable. In a world that sometimes seems like there is no love or where love has become distorted – God says you are loved.

Matthew 10: 29-31 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

LK 15:3-10 Then Jesus told them this parable: "Suppose one of you has a hundred sheep and loses one of them. Does he not leave the ninety-nine in the open country and go after the lost sheep until he finds it? And when he finds it, he joyfully puts it on his shoulders and goes home. Then he calls his friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost sheep.' I tell you that in the same way there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who do not need to repent. Or suppose a woman has ten silver coins and loses one. Does she not light a lamp, sweep the house and search carefully until she finds it? And when she finds it, she calls her friends and neighbors together and says, 'Rejoice with me; I have found my lost coin.' In the same way, I tell you, there is rejoicing in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

Yes, we are the treasured sparrow, we have carefully numbered hairs on our head, we are the cherished wayward sheep and the rediscovered coin in these verses. He not only loves us with an everlasting love but He pursues us and draws us to Himself.

JER 31:3 "I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness.

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