

Who Cares?



A student in a huge university flunks out. **Who cares?** A white-collar worker in a towering office building goes bankrupt. **Who cares?** A machinist in a sprawling factory dies in a rush-hour traffic accident. **Who cares?** A tenant in a modern high-rise apartment commits suicide. **Who cares?**

Depersonalization, estrangement, isolation—these are the terms that characterize our age. We play the role. We pretend that it doesn't matter. But inside, we're alone, desperately alone.

We seek acceptance and identity in strange ways. We join activist groups, service organizations, country clubs, hobby clubs, street gangs, even churches. Yet we remain unsatisfied, unfulfilled, unloved.

Beneath our thin facade of sophistication we battle doubts, fears, and anxieties. Silently we cry out for someone who will listen, who will understand, **who will care**. Many of us conclude with the Psalmist of old, *"I looked on my right hand, and beheld, but there was no man that would know me : refuge failed me; no man cared for my soul"* (Psalm 142:4).

Is there, then, anyone who cares? Is there perhaps Someone beyond this world who cares? Is there even anybody out there? If there is, is it possible that He, the great, infinite God of the universe, is even **aware** of the individual member of the species homo sapiens on His planet Earth, let alone **concerned**?

Jesus Christ asked, *"For what shall it profit*

a man, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? (Mark 8:36). He is saying, in other words, that the soul of one man out values the combined worth of all the world's treasures.

He asked, moreover, *"Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear ye not, therefore; ye are of more value than many sparrows"* (Matthew 10:29-31). Not only is the God of the universe aware of us, He has numbered the hairs of our heads.

Jesus asked, finally, *"What man of you, having an hundred sheep, if he lose one of them, doth not leave the ninety and the nine in the wilderness, and go after that which is lost, until he find it? And when he hath found it, he layeth it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he cometh home, he calleth together his friends and neighbours, saying unto them, Rejoice with me; for I have found my sheep which was lost. I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety and nine just persons which need no repentance"* (Luke 15:4-7).

To God, the individual matters, matters so much that He *"gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life"* (John 3:16). Jesus said, *"I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father*

knoweth me even so I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep” (John 10:14,15).

To become one of “His own” you must abandon the facade and admit you, too, are a lost sinner. You must repent of your sin, and be willing to turn from it. You must ask Jesus Christ to become your Savior from sin. You must invite Him to become your Shepherd, and your Lord. You must ask Him to make you a child of the heavenly Father. You must believe that He will.

To deny God’s ability or longing to meet your deepest needs is to deny the authority of His Son. It is to deny the unanimous testimony of His children down through the centuries.

To accept His offer of love is to find your hope for real peace and real assurance in this age of insecurity. To do so is to find authentic personal identity. It is to find a Friend who has said, *“I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee” (Hebrews 13:5).*

Who cares? **God does!** He sent His Son to die for you. He raised His Son from the dead to live in you. He brought this message to you.

“Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you” (1 Peter 5:7).

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