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Where Our Greatness Lies

"No one has greater love than this," Jesus said, "to lay down one's life for one's friends." - (John 15:13)

What is it that makes human beings so precious? It is this: they are capable of being faithful to God and committed to the promotion of good in the world. They are capable of giving their lives for these things, even to the point of dying for them.

Once we understand the greatness of the human soul, we can embrace God's love for us in the giving of his Son. As the apostle Paul put it, "God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners"—that is, while we were still in rebellion against God—"Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8). People are valuable even if they're doing nothing; we do not have to earn our value. Nevertheless, God put us here to make a difference. Jesus confirmed this with these words, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven" (Matt. 5:16). That one verse encapsulates why there are people—to shine, doing good works and glorifying God—and it is an active process as we live out our lives in the world before God in such a way that people see the goodness of our lives and acknowledge God as the source of that goodness.

Life is made even more valuable because of the sacrifices made by those who give themselves up to God and for God, and for every good thing God has made. That is what God put us here for. That is why we treasure faithfulness, loyalty, and heroism in people. There is something about faithfulness and loyalty between people that is precious and beautiful because it is a reflection of what is possible between man and God. The potential of men and women to give up their lives for the glory of God and for the good that God has created is precisely what makes human life great.

Human life is a process of transition and transformation. We go through life in a belt of time and space with one another, and we have the opportunity to be everything God intended us to be in relationship to him and to those around us. We have the potential to create something incredibly precious and good, and God is going to bring it to pass. If we miss our chance to participate with him, we miss our chance, but he is not going to be defeated in this.

Practice: *God is going to create a community of loving, creative, intelligent, loyal, faithful, and powerful human beings, and they are going to rule the earth. It is going to come to pass. If you want to be a part of that, just get on board.*

(Q) The challenge for us in the creation of good is not usually some big religious issue as we commonly think of it. How can the ordinary stuff of life - our day-to-day living in our families, at work, at play become the receptacle of the divine, a place where the life of God flows?