

1. Our values are the items in life on which we put greater stress. Personality and preference will regulate some of this but we need to survey our values carefully, we may have some that work against our position with Christ as, for example:
 - a. The world, in spite of 1 John 2:15
 - b. The praise of me (well, "people" in this age of political correctness) in spite of 3 John 9
 - c. Self-attainment, in spite of Ecclesiastes 2.
2. Therefore the values of the Lord should be normative for us. We discern them through the Scriptures. Following are some but by no means all:

B. Demonstrative Lessons

1. Relationship with the Father: John 8:54; 17; 14 etc.
2. Concern for others: John 18:8; 6:5
3. Understanding of need John 21
4. Attention to order: John 8 (seed, cross, lifted up, etc.) Matthew 6
5. Time: John 2, 9:4-5

Note that I am not overlooking the other Gospels. Luke 12 provides some great illustrations and the whole of the Gospel accounts are gripped with them. There is plenty of material to show that the Mind of Christ in Christ is seen in the values of the Lord. Those values should be transmitted to us as we are joined to the family of God.

C. Random Observations

1. Our values are too often earth-centered. When they are such they draw away energies that could be given to spiritual truths and goals. The world system derides spiritual and moral values in many cases and believers must be hardened to face mockery, persecution, etc. for promoting them but in the light of 1 Peter 4...if one suffers as a Christian one should rejoice.
2. Beware that our values are not attached and/or governed by self-attainment.
3. The Mind of Christ will reshape our values to emphasize spiritual truths as being more important and meaningful in our lives and witness.

D. Conclusion:

The test of 2 Corinthians 10:5 becomes a watchword in this case although