

Bucket Talk – Top Dollar

Bible Verses

1Corinthians 1:26-28 (MSG) "Take a good look, friends, at who you were when you got called into this life. I don't see many of 'the brightest and the best' among you, not many influential, not many from high-society families. Isn't it obvious that God deliberately chose men and women that the culture overlooks and exploits and abuses, chose these 'nobodies' to expose the hollow pretensions of the 'somebodies'?"

John 3:16 "For God so loved the world that he sent His one and only son so that all who believed in Him would never perish but have eternal Life."

The Acquisition Price

Back in 2001, Alex Rodriguez signed a record-setting \$252 million, 10-year contract with the Texas Rangers. Three years later A-Rod was traded to the New York Yankees. In order for the Yankees to acquire Rodriguez, they agreed to pay him \$25 million each year for 7 more years. Over the past several years, the Yankees have continued to pay top dollar to acquire their athletes and they now have not one, not two, not three, but NINE players who they pay over \$10 million each year to play baseball.

Now wouldn't it be fantastic to play this game for \$10 million dollars a year? Well unfortunately for most of us, that is really nothing but a dream. For most of us, the reality is that maybe our parents, friends or family members may pay 5 or 10 bucks a piece to watch us play in a weekend tournament but that's about as big-time as we may get. We are just not as sought after as A-Rod or some of those other high priced athletes.

Or are we?

On second thought, my acquisition price was a LOT more than A-Rod's millions. And what's crazy is that I'm a nobody! But so are a lot of the others on my team. Most of us are quite overlooked and underpaid from the world's perspective. But the same God who chose a shepherd boy to slay the giant and become king (David), who chose a group of fishermen to be His Son's closest followers (His disciples), and who chose a Christian-killer to take the Good News to the Gentiles (Paul), has paid in full and upfront the highest price...the ULTIMATE price... to get us on His team. Team Jesus Christ.

Yes, the grace of God and the blood of Christ allows "nobodies" like you and I to sit in the same dugout as the greats – Abraham, Moses, David, Esther, Peter, Paul, even Jesus himself.

Do you ever feel that you make excuses to not work as hard as you should because the "reward" is not big enough?

Starting today... How can you start to play like and live like the person God sacrificed His son for you to be?

