

"Pastoral Callings - Designed with Purpose"

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"For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God; not as a result of works, that no one should boast. For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them." Ephesians 2:8-10

We Are Unique

1.	We are Designed by God -	"For we are His workmanship"	'Ephesians 2:10
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Definition of "workmanship":

God loves variety...

- Designed with physical uniqueness
- Designed for ministry uniqueness

God continues His work in our lives...

- Philippians 1:6
- Philippians 3:12

2. We are Designed by God for Service - "Created in Christ Jesus..." Ephesians 2:10

Definition of "creation":

Romans 12:6 "...God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well."

1 Corinthians 12:18 "But now God has placed the members, each one of them in the body, just as He desired."

Definition of "will":

Two common problems that arise when we seek God's design for our lives...

- Desiring to be like others...
- Desiring others to be just like us...

3. We are Designed by God for Good Works - "Created in Christ Jesus for good works..." Ephesians 2:10 Definition of "good works":

Busyness is not next to godliness nor is it fulfilling God's design for your life.

4. We are Designed by God to Fulfill His Plan - "Which God prepared beforehand..." Ephesians 2:10

Psalm 139:14 "I will give thanks to Thee, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made..."

Romans 12:2 "...that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect."

5. We are Designed by God to Fulfill His Plan Everyday – "We should walk in them." Ephesians 2:10

Definition of "walk":

God gives us the desire to follow His plan

"For it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure." Philippians 2:13 "For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him." (NLT)

God enables us to serve Him

"That the surpassing greatness of the power may be of God and not from ourselves." 2 Corinthians 4:9

Conclusion:

- 1. Are you serving God today out of a growing relationship with Him?
- 2. What changes do you need to make in your life in order to live according to God's design?

Discussion Questions

- 1. How do you see God uniquely working in your life to prepare you to serve Him? (Eph. 2:10... "For we are His workmanship...")
- 2. What has God given you the ability to do well? (Romans 12:6)
- 3. What are the "good works" you see God performing through your life? (Eph. 2:10... "created for good works...")
- 4. What brings you fulfillment and satisfaction in life and service?
- 5. What areas of your life do you need to allow God to control in order to fulfill His design for you?
- 6. How have you seen God empowering you and working through you?
- 7. In what ways have you allowed busyness in serving God to substitute for deepening your relationship with Him?