

MESSAGE NOTES

May 3, 2015

IN CHRIST: His Handiwork
Ephesians 2:10
Pastor Jeff Nelsen

- We're saved by _____ –not _____ but _____ good works. Eph 2:8-9
- LIE: Yeah, but the Christian life is still mostly _____ to _____. Phil 3:4-7

For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:10 (NIV)

UNDERSTANDING WHAT GOD'S UP TO

- *Handiwork* = _____, work of art, something made by _____. Isa 64:8
- He's created us _____ in Christ. Jn 3:6-7; 2 Cor 5:17; Eph 4:24; Phil 1:6
- He's _____ good works for us to _____ w/Him. Mt 10:42

IDENTITY: HIS HANDIWORK

- Is both a _____ & _____ deal when it's working right. Rom 12:4-8; Titus 2:14
- God has uniquely _____ us to _____ and _____. Matt 5:16

For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them. Eph 2:10 (ESV)

LEARNING TO BE CONVINCED

- _____ how God has uniquely shaped _____ to serve. 1 Cor 12:1
- _____ as I step into good works He _____ me to do. Titus 2:14
- _____ learning to do them _____ & _____ Christ. John 15:5; 1 Cor 15:58
- God, I want to live fully _____ as _____ handiwork. 2 Cor 4:7

DISCOVERING YOUR GOD-GIVEN S-H-A-P-E

How has God been uniquely shaping me in Christ, so I can glorify Him & edify others?

Spiritual Gifts

What gift(s) did the Holy Spirit give to me when I trusted in Christ?

Hospitality, Helps, Mercy, Encouragement, Administration, Giving, Teaching, Wisdom, Knowledge, Intercession, Craftsmanship, Creative Communication, Leadership

Heart (Passions)

What do I love to do?
What breaks my heart?

*What cause, hurt or injustice do I long to see changed/healed?
Which people or age group is my heart pulled towards to love, serve and encourage?*

Abilities (Talents)

What talents, skills or abilities do I possess to help someone else?

Build, bake, cook, clean-up, repair, decorate, organize, enhance, assist, care for, write, speak, teach, listen or anything that may not sound "spiritual" but could help people?

Personality

How can I serve God by valuing the personality He has given me?

Am I more quiet or outgoing? Task or people-oriented? Structured or spontaneous?

Experiences

What meaningful or painful experiences have shaped who I am?

*What did I learn growing up in my family?
What were my favorite subjects in school?
What jobs have I most been effective in and enjoyed?
What have been my most meaningful times with God?
How have I served God in the past?
What problems, hurts, thorns or trials have I learned from?*

I'm indebted to Pastor Rick Warren for creating this acrostic and sharing his insights on this subject