

**Good News Church GA**  
**Message Notes**  
**Discovering Your Unique & God-Given Shape**  
**Drue Warner**  
**5-1-22**

**TEXTS: Ephesians 2:1-10, Ephesians 4:8**

**KEY VERSE:** *I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful; I know that full well.* - Psalm 139:14

**OUTLINE:**

- Purpose
- Problem
- Reality
- Solution

**1. PURPOSE – Why were you and I created?**

***To glorify God and to enjoy Him forever.***

- *(BY enjoying Him)*

*Whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.*

– 1 Corinthians 10:31

**2. PROBLEM – What is our challenge in living out our intended purpose?**

**We are lacking the desire, motivation, and ability to do so.**

Everyone has turned away, all have become corrupt; there is no one who does good, not even one. – Psalm 53:3

**3. REALITY – What is the reality of how the problem plays itself out in our lives?**

**We live for our own glory.**

He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. - John 1:10

#### 4. SOLUTION

**God has rescued us from ourselves and delivered us unto Himself.**

For he has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. - Colossians 1:13

#### **GOSPEL DOXOLOGY**

Thomas Ken (1709), Zac Hicks (2015)

Your perfect law exposes me I feel my sin in desperate need

**My best good works are powerless To satisfy your righteousness**

**But there is one who lived for me! His life, my only victory**

**His death, forever sealed in time That I am His and He is mine!**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below!

Praise Him, above ye heavenly hosts, Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Amen

#### **MAIN SCRIPTURE TEXT**

##### **Made Alive in Christ**

##### **Ephesians 2:1-10**

**2** And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, <sup>2</sup> in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience. <sup>3</sup> Among them we too all formerly lived in the lusts of our flesh, indulging the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and **were by nature children of wrath**, even as the rest. <sup>4</sup> **But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us**, <sup>5</sup> even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved).

**VIDEO – [Dog Being Rescued](#) (0:00 – 3:10 min.)**

##### ***In Summary...***

*Even while we were caught up and entangled in our sin, God pursued us in Christ and **rescued** us in His love! And after we've been rescued by such a loving shepherd, how can we not want to be anywhere except for wherever He is (just like the dog in the video).*

<sup>6</sup>and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith; and that not of yourselves, *it is* the gift of God; <sup>9</sup>not as a result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>**For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.** – Ephesians 2:1-10

## **Workmanship = Poiema**

**(def) – a unique expression of the heart (of God)**

**Before you were ever born, and from before the foundation of the world, God has prepared you and me for good works!**

**How do you know what are the good works that He has prepared for you to do?**

**Pay attention:**

1. ENJOYMENT - the things that you like to do.
2. OPPORTUNITY - the things that you have opportunity to do.
3. TALENT / SKILL - the things that you're good at doing
4. HOLY SPIRIT - God's Spirit in you (leading, guiding, directing, convicting)
  - Includes shining a light on the NEEDS AROUND YOU.
5. AFFIRMATION – observation, feedback, and affirmation from others

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK** - *"Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive, and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive."*  
- Howard Thurman

## **Walking by the Spirit vs. the Flesh**

### **Galatians 5:13-18**

<sup>13</sup>You, my brothers and sisters, were called to be free. But **do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather, serve one another humbly in love.** <sup>14</sup>For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "**Love** your neighbor as yourself." <sup>15</sup>If you bite and devour each other, watch out or you will be destroyed by each other.

<sup>16</sup>**So I say, walk by the Spirit,** and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup>For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever you want. <sup>18</sup>But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

## Romans 8:5-8, 14

<sup>5</sup> Those who live according to the flesh have their minds set on what the flesh desires; but those who live in accordance with the Spirit have their minds set on what the Spirit desires. <sup>6</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is death, but **the mind governed by the Spirit is life and peace.** <sup>7</sup> The mind governed by the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law, nor can it do so. <sup>8</sup> **Those who are in the realm of the flesh cannot please God.** (*we'll come back to vs. 14-16*)

## When we walk by and are led by the Spirit, there is:

- **Spiritual Fruit** (Galatians 5)
- **Spiritual Gifts** (Romans 12, Ephesians 4, 1 Corinthians 12, 1 Peter 4)

## FRUIT = WHAT COMES OUT OF YOU

- Ed Stetzer's article about the impression left in Louisville, KY from 12,000 Christian leaders at "Together for the Gospel" conference.
- **Problems:**
  1. We have not "experienced" the gospel love of Christ (heart)
  2. We are not walking by or being led by the Spirit (surrendered)

## GIFTS = WHAT GOD PUTS IN YOU

<sup>4</sup> *There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them.* <sup>5</sup> *There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.* <sup>6</sup> *There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.* <sup>7</sup> *Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.* – 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

## Spiritual Gifts include:

Administration	Evangelism	Leadership
Apostleship (Missions)	Faith	Mercy
Craftsmanship	Giving	Prophecy
Creative	Helps	Shepherding
Communication	Hospitality	Teaching
Discernment	Intercession (Prayer)	Wisdom
Encouragement	Knowledge	

## REFER TO THE ASSESSMENT / ASSIGNMENT

- **NOTE:** This assessment may or may not connect. We're all in different places.

### **GOD'S GRACE... God does in us what we cannot do in ourselves!**

- **Ephesians 4:8... He gave gifts!** (references Psalm 68:18, a triumphant king "to the victor goes the spoils," except Jesus is the triumphant king and instead of keeping the spoils, He lavishly and generously shares them with His people.
  - **REFERENCE - Ephesians 4:7-13**  
**<sup>7</sup> But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it. <sup>8</sup>This is why it says: "When he ascended on high, he took many captives and gave gifts to his people.... <sup>11</sup>So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup>to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up <sup>13</sup>until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ. – Ephesians 4:7-8, 11-13**

## CONCLUSION

### **Romans 8:14-16**

<sup>14</sup>For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God.

<sup>15</sup>**The Spirit you received** does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, **the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship.** And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." <sup>16</sup>The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children.

### **VIDEO – [Homeless Teen](#) (3:09 min.)**

*"He's made me part of his family. I'd do anything for him."*

**Jimmy made Rivers a part of his family and gave him a job!**

***In Christ, God has made you a part of his family and given you a job (that comes with great joy) and when we "get that," our natural response is to say, "I'd do anything for him."***

**And THAT'S Good News!**

## **NEW! GOSPEL DOXOLOGY**

Thomas Ken (1709), Zac Hicks (2015)

Your perfect law exposes me  
I feel my sin in desperate need  
My best good works are powerless  
To satisfy your righteousness

But there is one who lived for me!  
His life, my only victory  
His death, forever sealed in time  
That I am His and He is mine!

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him all creatures here below!  
Praise Him, above ye heavenly hosts  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost  
Amen.

## **NEW! THE BLESSING (Benediction)**

Psalm 139, Psalm 8, Ephesians 2

You have been known by God since before you were ever born.  
All your days were written in God's book before one of them came to be.  
He knit you together in your mother's womb as a unique expression of His heart of love.

You are fearfully and wonderfully made.  
God's thoughts towards you are as vast as the grains of sand on the seashore.

You have been crowned with glory and honor  
and given dominion over all the earth.

You are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus  
for good works, which God has prepared  
in advance for you to do, both for your good  
and for His eternal glory.