

Daily Devotional, October 6, 2020 Created to Care For Others

"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)

So what is it that God has created you to do? Besides your daily occupation, there are tasks that have my name on them and there are tasks that have your name on them. There are people who need a touch from someone like me and there are people who need a touch from someone just like you.

So what is it that God has prepared in advance for you to do? A good place to begin to explore what good works we are meant to do is to think about our relationships. Is there a family member or friend who would benefit from experiencing the ways that God is at work in your life? I don't mean just being nice because you are a nice person. I means letting the Holy Spirit direct your actions using your unique personality and skills to carry out God's work.

Ephesians 2:10 tells us that we are created for service - good works. Our Creator has had these specific things in mind just for us since the day He created us. Notice that we are created in Christ. As children of God and through faith in our Lord and Savior, we are new creations. We reflect His holy, perfect image to others. Our works of service are not our own. Our works of service, too, are part of God's workmanship—God's work through our willing, serving hands.

We are unique in Christ and each one of us has been created with characteristics that are revealed when we interact with others. How we serve truly reflects our unique personality and attributes. Some of us would rather be involved in getting a job done while others would rather dwell on relational concerns. Maybe you would rather cook a meal for someone, and I would rather carry on a conversation. Some of us prefer to serve in very distinct and goal-oriented ways while others of us function better with minimal boundaries. There is no right or wrong in how things are achieved. The true measure of a Spirit-based personality is if our actions glorify God and serve others. God lovingly created you with specific characteristics in your personality to serve in areas where He wants you to serve and to serve how you serve best.

Whether you are an extrovert, or an introvert makes little difference, and whether you use your hands or words doesn't matter. When we do things in the name of Jesus Christ—they are all good works. Reach out and put your good works to work today for the betterment of others. Whether it be a phone call, a personal note, shopping for their needs, or some other errand, reach out at every opportunity. Let them know they are not alone and that they are thought of.

Prayer: "Dear Lord, open my eyes to the wonders of Your life's work in me. Guide me as I reflect on life and serve others. Give me courage and humility to know that You have prepared moments for me to love and be involved in the lives of others. You have gifted me to reach others and influence them. May I not hold back, may I be bold for Your sake, as You were bold for me." In the name of Jesus Christ who is constantly at work in me. Amen.