

Living in Your Own Uniqueness

Living in Your Own Uniqueness

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 7:7, 17

1 Corinthians 7:7, 17 NIV I wish that all men were as I am. But each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that. {17} Nevertheless, each one of you should retain the place in life that the Lord assigned to Him and to which God has called him. *This is the rule I lay down in all the churches.*

Introduction

Masterpieces are one of a kind. In our world, people often purchase copies of a masterpiece to adorn their home. However, the copy never quite measures up to the masterpiece.

God made you unique: you're a masterpiece.

I. Unique design

Jeremiah 1:4-5 (NKJV) Then the word of the LORD came to me, saying: 5 "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; Before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations."

Psalms 139:13-16 (NKJV) For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. 14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well. 15 My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. 16 Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them.

Jeremiah 18:4 (NKJV) And the vessel that he made of clay was marred in the hand of the potter; so he made it again into another vessel, as it seemed good to the potter to make.

- A. Special gift mix
- B. Special mix of abilities
- C. Unique family background
- D. Unique set of friends

- E. Unique training
- F. Unique life circumstances

II. Unique abilities

Jeremiah 1:8-9 (NKJV) Do not be afraid of their faces, For I am with you to deliver you," says the LORD. 9 Then the LORD put forth His hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me: "Behold, I have put My words in your mouth."

A. Two shepherds

1. Moses
 - a. Raised in Pharaoh's court
 - b. A mighty man

Acts 7:22 (NKJV) "And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and deeds."

2. David
 - a. A simple shepherd
 - b. A lion and bear killer

B. Two apostles

Galatians 2:7-9 (NKJV) But on the contrary, when they saw that the gospel for the uncircumcised had been committed to me, as the gospel for the circumcised was to Peter 8 (for He who worked effectively in Peter for the apostleship to the circumcised also worked effectively in me toward the Gentiles), 9 and when James, Cephas, and John, who seemed to be pillars, perceived the grace that had been given to me, they gave me and Barnabas the right hand of fellowship, that we should go to the Gentiles and they to the circumcised.

1. Peter

Acts 5:15 (NKJV) so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them.

2. Paul

Acts 19:11-12 (NKJV) Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul, 12 so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them.

Living in Your Own Uniqueness

III. Unique purpose

Jeremiah 29:11 NIV "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

A. Joseph

Genesis 50:19-20 (NKJV) Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for **am I in the place of God?** 20 "But as for you, **you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good**, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.

B. Esther

Esther 4:14 (NKJV) "For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. **Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?**"