TRUEST THING ABOUT YOU 4: PURPOSE!

September 13, 2015 Ephesians 2:10 by Bob Branch Staying Free, part 5

"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**

The LORD said, "Surely I will set you free for purposes of good." **Jeremiah 15:11** NAS

BIG IDEA: God designed you to impact a sphere of people for his purposes in a way unique only to you... and he has prepared the way for you to walk in it.

1. We are God's handiwork,... his masterpiece, his workmanship. (poiema)

"For his (God's) *invisible attributes*, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the <u>things that have been made</u>. So they are without excuse."

Romans 1:20 ESV

Where has God put you? What interests you? What would you say your gifts are? What are your talents? Things you do well? Who is in your life?

2. God created you to do something... good works that draw attention, not to you, but to Jesus.

"Surely I will set you free for purposes of good." **Jeremiah 15:11**

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:14-16

Secular or Sacred?

God has given you a sphere of influence where he wants you to bring heaven to earth.

Shameless Plug: Back to Church Sunday, NEXT Sunday! Bring someone!

St. Francis of Assisi Prayer

Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy.

O, Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love; For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; it is in dying that we are born again to eternal life.

3. God designed you, and the works for you to do, well in advance.

"My Father is <u>always at his work</u> to this very day, and I too am working." **John 5:17**

"Do not think that because you are in the king's house you alone of all the Jews will escape. For if you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance for the Jews will arise from another place, but you and your father's family will perish. And who knows but that you have come to your royal position for such a time as this?"

Esther 4:13-14

Daily prayer: "Here am I, send me!" Isaiah 6:8