

## PERMISSION GRANTED: To Be YOU

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Text: Psalm 139/Ephesians 2:1-10/Romans 12:1-8

What's important on this journey, is not so much what you do, but who you become. Who you are dictates what you will do.

### PSALM 139

SEEN BY GOD - v1-6

PURSUED BY GOD - v7-12

DESIGNED BY GOD - v13-16

God wants you to become the YOU He created YOU to BE.

### EPHESIANS 2:1-10

You are not your own handiwork. Your life is God's project. v10

### ROMANS 12:1-8

We are to give our bodies not as a dead sacrifice, but as a living sacrifice.

The other side of death is freedom. No one is more free than a dead person.

Self-improvement is no more God's idea than Self-Salvation.

Your Christian life isn't dependent on what you get from Him. It's dependent on what you give to Him.

We will either conform or transform.

If we don't renew our mind our body will come off the altar.

He doesn't give us a certain gift without the capacity to operate it.

What's my Spiritual Gift?

Answer: My Spiritual Gift is \_\_\_\_\_

## Food for Thought for the week of May 1, 2016

(Questions and Scriptures for further study and discussion.)

1. Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

2. Are you familiar with the term doppelgänger?

*In fiction and folklore, a doppelgänger is a look-alike or double of a living person, sometimes portrayed as a paranormal phenomenon, and in some traditions as a harbinger of bad luck. In other traditions and stories, they recognize your 'double-goer' as an evil twin.*

Do you have one? Share this with the group.

3. How unique are you to God, your Designer? (Psalm 139:13-14)

4. Our natural born uniqueness is not lost when we become new creations in Christ. Our new status activates our wiredness--not weirdness. Give examples.

5. If He created you, drew you to Himself, and chose you, how responsible is He for your growth as a Christian? (Philippians 1:6)

7. If I have my free will, how responsible am I for my growth as a Christian? (I Corinthians 9:24-27)

8. God doesn't make junk (to paraphrase an inner city lad decades ago). Do you agree? What implications are there if you believe this? If you don't?

9. What good comes from comparison? for the group? for the individual?

Are we ever advised to compare ourselves to others in Scripture? Read I Corinthians 12:12-27 and Romans 12:3-6a. Do you get it?

10. Read Ephesians 2:10. God alone is able to provide the power to do good, to set us free from the power of sin. God has designed an individual education plan for each of us. Will you trust Him with your development?

May 1, 2016



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