

Lesson 6:
God's Masterpiece!



*"We are God's masterpiece.
He has created us anew in Christ Jesus,
so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago."
Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)*

*"The New Testament was written originally in Greek.
The Greek word for "masterpiece" is "poema." It's the word we get "poem" from.
God says,
"You're my poem.
You're my masterpiece.
I don't want you copying somebody else.
I've put gifts in you – heart, abilities, personality, and experiences – and I want you to use them."
You have worth because of what God says about you and has done for you."
Pastor Rick Warren*

What a beautiful image to think that we are God's poem. The highs and lows; the rhymes and contrasts; are all artfully designed to create God's masterpiece - - - you! We often forget that we are not the result of chance. We often forget because Satan has worked so hard to convince us that there is no Creator. If we lose sight of the true beginning of our world we allow the value of human life to diminish. But, the Bible tells us very clearly that God created the heavens and the earth. There was a design and a purpose. We are not happy accidents. We are an artfully fashioned work of art.

Designed ~ ~ ~

The value of human life has greatly diminished over the years. Our world argues over the moment it becomes okay to end a person's existence. Some even argue over who is valuable and who can be eliminated without causing too much remorse. Humanity has used the very nature of the THEORY of evolution to give it a green light for genocide, abortion, racism and hate crimes. If we are nothing more than the byproduct of an accidental meeting which caused a cataclysmic event, we hold no value. God does not see us that way, thankfully. Regardless of the current theories or political agendas, God knows and planned for each and every one of us. He does not only get to know us once we give Him our lives. God knows us, and loves us, even while we are ignorant or even in rebellion of Him.

Please read one of David's psalms, Psalm 139:13-16.

What does it mean to you to read that God knows us even before we are born?

How did David describe the way in which we are made? (verse 14)

The Hebrew word that is most often translated 'fearfully' in verse 14 is yare (pronounced yaw-ray). It's basic meaning is to fear, but when it is used in a morality context it means to revere or hold in reverence. What part of the creation of mankind causes you to feel a sense of reverence? Would an accident trigger the same emotion for you?

The other word that David used is usually translated 'wonderfully'. This word in Hebrew is palah (which is pronounced paw-law). It means to distinguish, whether literally or figuratively. Strong's Concordance defines it as "put a difference, show marvelous, separate, set apart, make wonderfully." We were not designed to be cookie cutter copies of each other, but different, unique, wonderfully made.

What qualities did God instill in you that are unique and wonderfully made?

Created for God's Glory - - -

What is the meaning of life? That question has plagued mankind for generations. However, if we know what scripture reveals about our creation, we can easily answer that question. We were created for God's glory. Isaiah 43:7 says, "Everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

If we were created for God's glory, how do we glorify God with our lives?

What specifically do you do that brings God glory?

Please read Galatians 5:13-26.

How can loving our neighbors bring God glory?

What are the acts of the sinful nature described in verses 19-21?

If those are things that do not bring glory to God, what are their opposites that do bring God glory?

What things are you holding on to that does not bring God glory? Ask God to help you let go of these things.

Whatever shape, color, or unique design God created you, whatever qualities, talents and even struggles that He instilled in you before you were ever even born, you are God's masterpiece! We need to stop trying to be someone else. There is only one you and you are exactly what the world needs. You are not an accident. You are designed. You are created and loved and unique. Your very existence brings God glory. Don't hide behind a false mask. Let your true identity shine and display God's handiwork for all to see!