

The Balanced Christian life - Part III

Created to Serve

Ephesians 2:10; 4:7-16

- 1) Looking at Ephesians 2:10, why did God place us here on planet earth? (12:1) Was it just to consume natural resources? Discuss.

- 2) In Ephesians 4:7, 8, and 11 Paul repeatedly says that Jesus Christ is a giver of gifts. If we are to model Christ's life, what does this mean for the way we are to live?

- 3) Ephesians 4:11-12 explicitly says that the role of a pastor is "*to prepare God's people for works of service.*" Another translation says, "*to equip the saints for the work of ministry.*" Is this a model of ministry in which you are familiar? How well does First Presbyterians follow this biblical directive?

- 4) Ephesians 4:11 says that not all are called to be pastors and teaches but all are ministers by virtue of the fact that every believer has been gifted by God in some way to make a difference in someone else's life for Jesus. Do you think of yourself as a "minister"? What would have to shift in your thinking to begin to consider yourself in this way?

- 5) Why did God bring you here to First Presbyterian? (A hint: pastor Rick Warren says in the first line of his book, *The Purpose Driven Life*, "It's not about you.")

- 6) At the end of his message, pastor Stewart mentioned that even Elvis was lost in many ways he still wanted to hear Jesus say to him "well done, my son." Questions to consider: At the end of our lives what will really matter? We will know why we were created? Did we make a difference? Did we contribute to the Body of Christ with the gifts that God has given us? Choose one or two of these questions and discuss.