

V. Getting On Track/Staying On Track:

- A. Don't diminish or underestimate what God has given.**

- B. Take time to reflect on your life on a regular basis.**

- C. Ask those who know you best for their input.**

- D. Start the day with an awareness of the presence of God.**

- E. Remember an extraordinary life is lived in ordinary circumstances.**

- F. God's vision for you may look different with the seasons of life**

VI. Conclusion:

Ron Jarrett

Message: "A Personal Vision for You and Me"

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Ephesians 2:10

I. Introduction:

Meaning of life questions are hard and often lead to self-condemnation and self-doubt so we tend to avoid them. God has another idea. He gives us a personal vision that brings meaning and purpose to our lives.

II. Context:

A. Larger Context: Book of Ephesians

B. Immediate Context: vs. 1-9

III. Ephesians 2:10

Key Words/Phrases:

A. "We" – Everyone who has experienced vs. 1-9

B. "workmanship" (poiema) – a work of art or masterpiece

1) Value

2) Quality

3) An Original

4) A product of painstaking labor

C. "created in Christ Jesus" –

1) Physically – Col. 2:16 Our physical bodies, our minds, our personalities, our abilities

2) Spiritually – We are "born again", new creatures in Christ designed to walk in newness of life.

D. "good works" – Deeds that are done in Christ that flow out of us as a result of being God's "workmanship". All these good works are worthy of eternal reward.

E. **“which God prepared beforehand” – God has work for us to do that He had in mind before we were born.**

F. **“that we should walk in them” – As we walk with God He reveals the good works He has for us that lead to changed lives, ours and those of others.**

IV. **A Personal Vision For Your Life: This verse describes the value and purpose God places on your life. So, let’s revisit the ideas of “workmanship” and “good works” and make it personal.**

A. **You are God’s workmanship:**

1) **Your physical life: God was busy working on you before you were ever conceived, forming your family history and your genetic line so that you would be you!**

2) **Your background: All your experiences from where you were born to your family of origin were decided by God. All your experiences, even the ones you think have limited you or damaged you are used by God to prepare you to be and do what He wants you to be and do.**

3) **Your spiritual life: Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever but our experiences with Him are unique and personal. This enables us to do unique kinds of good works.**

B. **You have good works to do: These good works are things that only you can do because no one is made and formed like you. These good works have to do with settings and resources.**

1) **Settings: The places where God’s vision plays out in your life.**

a. **Family: No one can fill your shoes as a son daughter, brother/sister, parent/grandparent or spouse.**

b. **Church: Your spiritual family whose health depends on every believer being fully engaged.**

c. **School/Workplace: Our place to shine the light of Christ with how we work, how we treat people and what we say.**

d. **Community: Where we live, who our neighbors are and the people we come in contact with as we live out our daily lives.**

2) **Resources: All empowered by the Holy Spirit**

a. **Spiritual Gifts**

b. **Natural Gifts**

c. **Skills**

d. **Passions**

e. **Pain**