

THIS SERIES CONTAINS CONTENT THAT MAY NOT
BE SUITABLE FOR IMMATURE BELIEVERS.



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July 13 & 16, 2023
Week 6 – Maturing in our Ministry (Eph. 2:10)

Introduction:

Luke 2:52

1 Corinthians 13:11

Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

See Matthew 20:28

What our Culture says about Leadership:

- It's about age
- It's about appearance
- It's about accomplishments
- It's about academics

Maturing in our Ministry: Three Keys

1. We don't serve _____ our identity; we serve _____ our identity.
"We are God's workmanship..." (masterpiece, Greek *poiema*)

Matthew 3:16-17

- "My beloved Son (Identity)
- "In whom I am well pleased" (Affirmation)

2. We not only have a _____ in Christ, but also a _____ in Christ.

"...created in Christ Jesus to do good works..."

3. We don't serve to fulfill our _____, but to fulfill God's _____.

"...which God prepared in advance for us to do."

Even Jesus didn't come to fulfill His "potential" – but to fulfill God's plan.

Matthew 26:52-54

The Big Idea: Being present in the moment, we live with an understanding that most often, "interruptions ARE the ministry."

QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION

Personal Life

1. Some people have the spiritual gift of serving. It's "supernaturally nature" for them. But all of us are called to mature in living a life of serving God by serving others. Share about a time when you served with a sense of wanting to bless someone else, but it ended up being a blessing to you as well.

Ponderings

2. Think about some of the ways you have matured in the area of serving others with your time, talent and treasure. What has God taught you most powerfully or impactfully as you have matured in your ministry?
3. Read Ephesians 2:10 as a group, discussing the following thoughts...
 - What are the differences between the good works God has prepared and the "dead works" of manmade religion?
 - Why is it so critical that we serve FROM, rather than FOR our sense of identity as children of God?
4. Of the Three Keys shared in the weekend message about "Maturing in our Ministry," which one was the most helpful or illuminating to you and why?
5. What did you think of the claim that "Jesus didn't fulfill His 'potential?'"
Read Matthew 26:52-54 as a key text in putting this claim in context...

Promptings:

6. Do you find yourself stressed or irritated by the interruptions that come at you? How can learning to view "interruptions as ministry" help to re-frame the daily calling God has on your life as a minister (servant) of the Gospel?