

1. Shaped for purpose –

What am I made for?

Worship God and Glorify Him in all I do.

Why is it we don't seem to nail that? We as Christians know that, particularly if we have been on the journey for any length of time but it seems the longer we are on the journey the less passion we have for blatant worship and glorification.

This passage gives us a real sense that the people Paul is talking to had an issue here too. Paul is in the middle of a discussion about God's sovereignty. About God being in charge and in control. Paul points out that even though man sins, His purposes still run.

This is where we pick up this passage.

Do we have any say in what God purposes us to?

Do we have a right to question how God made us?

Look at this

Romans 9:19-21 (NIV2011)

¹⁹ One of you will say to me: "Then why does God still blame us? For who is able to resist his will?"

²⁰ But who are you, a human being, to talk back to God? "Shall what is formed say to the one who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?'"

²¹ Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for special purposes and some for common use?

Basically we have no right but we still exercise a choice. It's called obedience.

Yet human kind, us people, run from God's design of us. Why? God made us with a capacity to decide. God made us with a capacity to think and act for ourselves.

God's decision to shape you, your decision to be used by God.

We need to realise we have that option to do our own thing, but it isn't what is best for us.

If we choose to god against God – he will respect that – our choice.

But God does have purpose for us. He made us like we are for a reason – the equilibrium we need to find is this :

Being who God designed me to be in a world mucked up by sin.

To do this we need to:

- 1. Recognize God's design**
- 2. Accept God's purpose**
- 3. Do God's will.**

Read this: Ok lets read it together. Yep that's what I said together.

Isaiah 64:8 (NIV2011)

⁸Yet you, LORD, are our Father. We are the clay, you are the potter; we are all the work of your hand.

Question: Why did God make us? Let's look at this video first then think about it.

(Video 2:05- 2:48 what do you make pots for?)

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers ... what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?" (Psalm 8:3-4).

1. He didn't need to too – He chose to.

"The God who made the world and everything in it ... is not served by human hands, *as if he needed anything*" (Acts 17:24-25).

And he didn't make us because he was lonely. Long before we were here, God already had "company" with his Son and the Holy Spirit,

2. God created us to fulfill his eternal plan. God, in his infinite wisdom, chose to make us a part of his eternal plan.
- 3.

What part do we play in this plan? Well, the Bible is full of instructions for how we should live our lives. But here are a few key verses to remember:

Let's put perspective on it.

1. "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength" (Deuteronomy 6:5).

2. "Love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:39).

3. "We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" (Ephesians 2:10).

So where does it leave us?

Made by God because He wanted to.

Loved by God because He wants to?

Gifted by God because He wants us to be in partnership with Him.

The equilibrium we need to find here is:

Accept God's creative purpose in us, Accept God's love AND accept that He wants us to do stuff for Him.