

GET INTO THE GAME

Part 2 – What Position Should I Play For The Team? Ephesians 4:11-13; Ephesians 5:15

Pastor Mark Hartman
September 14, 2014

Psalm 139:13-14 "You (God) created every part of me. You put me together in my mother's womb." ¹⁴ "Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! It is amazing to think about. Your workmanship is marvelous!"

According to this passage there are three important truths about you and me:

1. We are **unique**.
2. We are complex.
3. We were created for a **purpose!**

I. DECIDE TO LIVE A LIFE OF **PURPOSE**. (Ephesians 5:15)

A. Ephesians 5:15 "Be very careful then how you live, not as unwise but as wise."

B. Mark 12:30-31 "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength. ³¹ Love your neighbor as yourself."

C. God did not put us here on earth just to live for **ourselves**.

Matthew 10:39 "If you cling to your life, you will lose it; but if you give it up for me, you will find it."

D. Loving God and loving others is the **greatest purpose** for which a person could live.

E. The greatest expression of love we can give another is to be a part of helping that person **know** Jesus Christ as Savior.

F. God is saying, "*Be very careful then how you live, make sure you **give** yourself to a purpose that is worthy of a life well lived. Life is about giving ourselves away."*

II. FIND THE PLACES OF **SERVICE** GOD INTENDS FOR YOU TO ACCOMPLISH AS A PART OF HIS MISSION FOR YOUR LIFE. (Ephesians 4:11-13)

A. Serve where you are **needed**.

1. *Ephesians 4:11-12 "It was God who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, ¹² to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up..." (NIV)*
2. When a church is functioning like it should, **everyone** is involved in **helping**; everyone is giving themselves away in some fashion.
3. We needed **300** new people in our guest relations ministry. Last Sunday we received **423** new volunteers!!!
 - a. We said we needed **120** of you to help us – from the parking lot, to door greeters, to welcoming newcomers, to sharing information. Last Sunday **93** volunteered. We are still in need of parking lot help, First Time Guest Center, and door greeters.
 - b. We said we needed **60** new data entry volunteers to help us. Last week we received **140** new volunteers!
 - c. We said we needed **50 more** men or women to warmly welcome folks, hand out worship guides, collect offering and worship cards. Last week we received **72** new volunteers and we can actually still use more!
 - d. We said we needed **20** to deliver small supplies to homes of Data Entry Team members. Last week we received **32** new volunteers!

- e. We said we needed 60 volunteers to help with service reset. Last week we had **86** new volunteers and we can still use more!

B. Serve where you are most **gifted**.

Ephesians 4:13 “...until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.” (NIV)

III. GET STARTED NOW. (Ephesians 5:16)

A. Live in the **now**.

1. Stop regretting the past!
2. *Joel 2:25 “And I will restore to you the years that the locust has eaten...”*
3. Trust God to do that for you!

B. Do your **very best** for God.

1. *Colossians 3:23 “Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men...”*
2. You aren't just a fill in. You are a partner in ministry and together we are doing it for God. So, give God your **best**.
3. It is time to change the question. The question was, “What is this church going to do . It is time to change the question to, “What am I going to do **for God** through this church?”

C. Always strive to **improve** your serve.

Ecclesiastes 10:10 “If the ax is dull and its edge unsharpened, more strength is needed but skill will bring success.”

CDs and DVDs of today's sermon or previous sermons are available for purchase after the service at our Water's Edge Resource Center.

Notes:
