

Redirected by God

Theme: Transformed by the Power of the Gospel

Introduction:

Ever heard of someone (possibly yourself) that made a statement like: "I was born _____": grumpy, hyper, too logical/practical/ etc.

- A. Did you know that your natural tendencies are all gifts from God?
 - 1. Before you live for Christ you use your gifts for your own purposes and glory.
 - 2. What if you were redirected... "created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them." **Eph. 2:10**
- B. This is what conversion is all about:
 - 1. God wants each person to delight Him; to give Him glory and honor.
 - 2. To be changed from a selfish and fleshly man, to one transformed into the likeness of His Son.

Discussion:

- I. The Natural Man ...
 - A. Each person has God-given gifts.
 - 1. This is true both of the unconverted and the converted.
 - 2. The difference lies in the direction of the person before and after conversion.
 - 3. The unconverted use God's talents for their personal gain.
 - B. But he will die in his sins.
 - 1. Because his life is for self. **Lk. 12:16-21**
 - 2. His life is completely against God's will: loving Him and one's neighbor (a selfless life). **Matt. 16:24-25**
- II. Redirected Into a Man of God
 - A. He puts away the man of the flesh.
 - 1. Redirected, he now uses those gifts to the glory of God. **Rom. 12:1-2**
 - 2. His stubbornness turns into steadfastness in/for Christ.
 - 3. His zealous ignorance is turned into purposeful zeal for the Lord.
 - 4. His passionate hatred into passionate love. Cp. **1 Tim. 1:12-16**
 - B. Are you willing to be redirected?
 - 1. This is the process of putting off the old man and putting on Christ.
 - 2. This is what being converted to Jesus Christ is all about.

Conclusion:

- A. Souls lost need to be redirected to Jesus.
- B. Straying Christians also need redirecting that they may continue in the blessings of Christ.