

BUILT DIFFERENT

“From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us.” Acts 17:26-27 (NIV)

There is a purpose for where you have been placed.

We were meant to be **built different**, but not in the way that we expect.

“Jesus replied, “I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life.” John 3:5-6 (NLT)

Being built different isn't something that we are when we are born physically, but when we are born spiritually.

- When we know the Word, the Word convicts us and transforms us.
- The Word illuminates the darkness in our hearts.

“The Lord’s light penetrates the human spirit, exposing every hidden motive.” **Proverbs 20:27 (NLT)**

Being built different has nothing to do with you, and everything to do with Him who has the light that penetrates, the power to change and desire to build you different.

BUILT DIFFERENT; A CHOICE

Our future is not forged on the outside. It is forged by decisions we make on the inside.

“But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God.”

John 1:12 (NLT)

We have a claim found in heaven.

*A gift offered, but not received, prevents us from experiencing the fullness of that gift. We must **choose** to receive the free gift we have in Jesus.*

*“Don’t copy the behavior and customs of this world, but let God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think. Then you will learn to know God’s will for you, which is good and pleasing and perfect.” **Romans 12:2 (NLT)***

When we choose to receive the gift of Jesus, we are built new... built different.

BUILT DIFFERENT; CHANGE OF DEFINITIONS

The intention of our lives is not to be defined by our past, but to be defined by Him and the future He desires for us to have.

*“throw off your old sinful nature and your former way of life, which is corrupted by lust and deception. Instead, let the Spirit renew your thoughts and attitudes. Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.” **Ephesians 4:22-24 (NLT)***

We need to allow God to change the deepest parts of us if we have are to created a new and built different.

“That is why we never give up. Though our bodies are dying, our spirits are being renewed every day. For our present troubles are small and won’t last very long. Yet they produce for us a glory that vastly outweighs them and will last forever!” **2 Corinthians 4:16-17 (NLT)**

Our definition of what is important moves from things that are temporary and perishing to things that are eternal.

BUILT DIFFERENT; WE HAVE PURPOSE & DIRECTION

Noah’s Ark was so intricately designed, yet it did not have a compass or a rudder, because God desires to be the one who orients and steers us in the right direction.

“Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understanding. Seek his will in all you do, and he will show you which path to take.” Proverbs 3:5-6 (NLT)

When God builds us different, He desires for us to lean on Him for everything.

*“No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.” **Philippians 3:13-14 (NLT)***

We orient ourselves not by looking back at the past, but by looking forward at what lies ahead.

*When we step into a relationship with Jesus, we become a new creation. **We are built different.***