

YOUR EVERYDAY, ORDINARY LIFE

INTRODUCTION

Being unqualified never disqualifies you from what God wants you to do
Moses, David, Mary, disciples, you and me

Here's what we're going to do this morning

ROMANS 12 (*The Message*)

Your Everyday, Ordinary Life Is Useful to God

Take your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, walking-around life and place it before God as an offering

3 chapters of my life: farmer, pastor, retiree

no one chapter put me more in God's will than another chapter

Q: Are you willing to be useful to God right where you are?

Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him
forgiveness, freedom from guilt & shame, adoption, purpose

when you embrace that daily you will be used by God

Keep Your Eyes on God and You'll Be Changed for the Better

Fix your eyes on God. You'll be changed from the inside out

develop a habit of expressing gratitude to God

Recognize what God wants and quickly respond

agree in advance to do what God asks of you

my call to ministry

it's what God does for us, not what we do for God

God has often taken me far out of my league

We're Like Various Parts of a Human Body

Each part gets its meaning from the body as a whole, not the other way

disconnected parts don't do much good

you must stay connected to the body as well as to the Head

we also have to stay in our own lanes

what happens if you try to be what God hasn't called you to be?
you will grow increasingly frustrated

the body will become increasingly unhealthy

I had to remember this as interim General Secretary

All of This Gets Intensely Practical

Practice playing second fiddle – a chance to see the Pope

Keep yourself fueled and aflame – songs, worship, Leadership Summit

Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant –attitude matters!

Bless your enemies; no cursing under your breath

Make friends with nobodies; don't be the great somebody--GFF

Don't hit back; don't insist on getting even

Discover beauty in everyone –how we view others

I can read some of your minds—"But I can't do this! I'm not qualified"
you're right—you can't do this . . . on your own

not being qualified doesn't disqualify you; there are no asterisks

CONCLUSION

Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going-to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering

this keeps me more attentive to what God is doing

this can be a "dangerous" way to live

this is a wonderfully freeing way to live

Will you join me?

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