

Paper Clip

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I. Introduction.

- A. God wants us to see things from his point of view. (2 Corinthians 4:18; Colossians 1:9)
- B. Text: Romans 11:36-12:8.
- C. We are responsible for what God has given us.

II. Where, who and why?

- A. God is in the process of shaping us into what he wants us to be.
- B. Some molding is done through trials. (James 1:2-4; 1 Peter 1:6-7)
- C. We are created by God for his glory. (Isaiah 43:7)
 - 1. We can glorify God by bearing much fruit. (John 15:8)
 - 2. We can glorify God by praising God. (Psalm 50:23)
 - 3. We can glorify God by being what we ought to be. (Ephesians 1:12)
 - 4. We can glorify God by following Jesus. (Luke 18:43)
 - 5. We can glorify God by going through the fires. (Isaiah 44:15)
 - 6. We can glorify God by unity. (Romans 15:6)
 - 7. We can glorify God by our bodies. (1 Corinthians 6:20)
- D. There is no such thing as an unimportant life in the economy of God. (1 Corinthians 12)
 - 1. God has assigned special gifts to every Christian. (Hebrews 2:4; 1 Corinthians 12:11)
 - 2. God is the one who chooses our gifts.
 - 3. All members of the body of Christ are important.

III. The reason for un-usability.

- A. Some glorify other things than God. (1 Corinthians 10:31)
- B. Some are tied to the wrong things. (Leviticus 26:13)
- C. Some have become hard and brittle. (Psalm 92:12-14)
 - 1. Because of pride.

2. Because people become rusty by being in the environment. (1 Corinthians 15:33; Proverbs 13:20; Psalm 1:1-3)

3. Because of lack of use. (Isaiah 41:15)

4. Because people get bent out of shape for being mad at God, at circumstances and at yourself. (Isaiah 45:7; 37:23; Romans 8:28; Job 15:15)

D. Some are hung up on this world's possessions.

E. Some are unwilling to change. (Philippians 2:13)

F. Some do not believe God has done it. (Romans 14:23)

IV. The key to restoration.

A. Admit that you need restoration.

B. Remember that you are important to God.

C. Start where you stand.

Application questions:

1. How can you live a life that glorifies God more?

2. What traps to un-usability are you most prone to falling into?
