

# FEARFULLY AND WONDERFULLY MADE

Devotion | Week 1 Day 2

## Visionaries

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. – Jeremiah 29:11

Some people are visionaries – people who see things that nobody else sees. They don't look at what exists and try to make it better. They see what doesn't exist and try to create it. Imagine the discussions that must have taken place at Apple many years ago when the iPod was first being proposed. Someone, or a group of people, sat down and pitched the idea of creating a device that would allow people to purchase music by downloading files containing an individual song from the Internet. These files would be stored on a portable device which could be backed up on a computer. By today's standards, this is common (if not out of date). However, at that time, music lovers flocked to the music store in the mall and bought whole albums on either a CD or a cassette tape (or 8-tracks and vinyl for you old-timers). You couldn't buy just the one song you wanted, and over time you would have boxes, shelves, and in some cases entire rooms filled with music. That same library can now be stored on one device that is the same size as the audio cassette tape it helped make obsolete. Not only did the iPod change the music listening experience, it changed the entire music industry.

When we look ahead at the lives we live, many of us are simply looking forward to ways we can improve the things we already do. This is a good thing. We should want to improve ourselves and our surroundings. But while this can help to make us better where we are today, does this really propel us to where we need to be tomorrow? My belief is that the truly innovative people in our world are the ones who are not looking to improve but to evolve; changing over from one thing that we had been into something totally new. What's more, I believe this idea to be Biblical in nature.

In the waters of Holy Baptism, we did not merely wash away the sins of our past so we could set out anew. Instead, we put down what had been and are transformed into something new in Christ. Paul's words in Romans 6:4 confirm this as he says, "We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life." As our Creator and ultimate visionary, God the Father has always known who He created us to be. Our sin, our insecurities, our fears, and the influences of our sinful selves create barriers that distract us, planting seeds of doubt designed to lead us away from God's promises and the blessings that come with them.

So who are you? What were you created to do? Are you unsure? Do you know what He's been telling you but are too comfortable where you're at or too afraid to venture out into the unknown? Take time today to seek the will of God. Ask for His guidance in finding the answers to your questions. God will show you where He intends for you to go. He will give you the path to get there, and no matter how frightening it may seem at the time He will walk beside you, providing you with everything you need at just the right moment so that His purposes will be met and His plans fulfilled.