

# Defining Ourselves in 2012

Part 1

January 8, 2012

## Natural vs. Spiritual

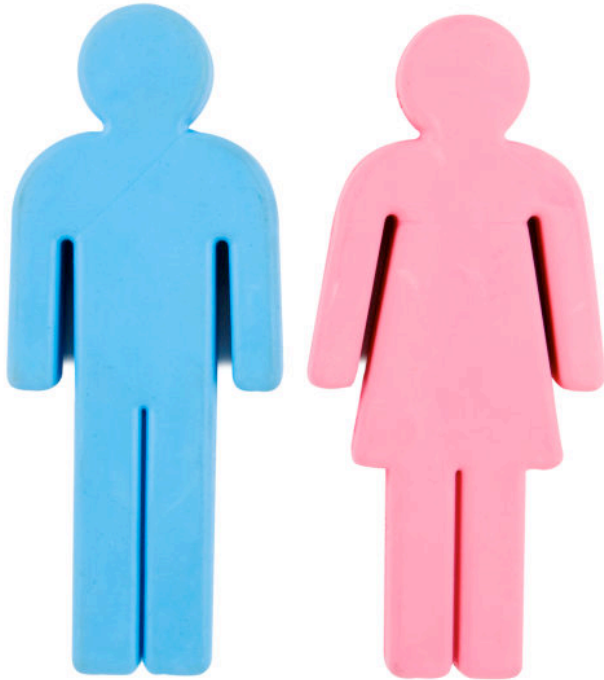
- Many times, when we grow up with deficits, we lose sight of our natural purpose in search of a spiritual one. But we must realize that our natural purpose comes before our spiritual one. **1Cor. 15:48 As is the earthy, such are they also that are earthy: and as is the heavenly, such are they also that are heavenly.**
- The spiritual purpose is always subject to our natural circumstance. In other words, God desires to use us, but he NEVER wants us using Him to make us look better. God wants us secure in our natural roles before we try to fulfill his spiritual call.
- When God selected Moses, he could have easily allowed him to take his people with him when he fled Egypt. But God sent Moses to Jethro instead because he wanted him to learn to be a man, learn how to work a job, and how to raise a family before he ever allowed him to be a deliverer for his people. **Ex. 3:1 Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb. Ex. 4:18 And Moses went and returned to Jethro his father in law, and said unto him, Let me go, I pray thee, and return unto my brethren which are in Egypt, and see whether they be yet alive. And Jethro said to Moses, Go in peace.**

## Godly Contentment

- The bible shows us that God, in most cases, calls those that have an occupation, or are content with their natural state before He garnishes them with a spiritual call. **Matt. 4:18 And Jesus, walking by the sea of Galilee, saw two brethren, Simon called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea: for they were fishers. And he saith unto them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.** When we don't embrace this principle it creates a spiritual person with no natural balance.

- People like this will usually attempt to use ministry as a band aid to cover up a deficit. When we seek God for ministry, we are usually running from discontentment or natural flaws. When we seek God only to be used by Him, we are usually trying to use Him to cover up issues and bad choices.
- We should be available for God to use us whenever He desires. But our availability is not just something we claim, but rather its being content in the natural with our creation roles. **Phil. 4:11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.**





**Man** was created first to rule over the earth and given a job. When Eve came along, the man became the covering of his family and provider for them. He was not given ministry until he got that part right! Ministry came along after the natural purpose was established and God only called those that were ready in the natural to do his spiritual work. **Gen 1:26**

**Woman** was created as a help meet for man. Eve was created to bear children and nurture her children and teach them. While the man works and provides, the woman nurtures and takes care of her home. This is not to say that women can not help others or work outside of the home, but she should always give her husband and children 1st priority and should always seek to be affirmed by what she was created for. **Gen. 2:18**

**When men** fulfill their God given natural responsibilities, then they are fit for spiritual responsibilities. If they try to have the spiritual before the natural, they will be imbalanced and cause God's people to be in danger of their own inconsistencies. **Heb. 13:5 Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.**

**When women** look past their earthly responsibilities and try to have ministry instead of being the help meet and nurturer that they were created to be, they will cause problems for their family, children, and generations to come. And when women seek to have authority over men rather than being a help meet, they curse their own lives. This is why they seek ministry because it covers up the issues and makes them look better in their own eyes and in the eyes of others.

**Summary** - Our roles define us naturally and God uses us spiritually, based on these roles. God doesn't change the roles for the calling but He calls based on the roles. All you have to do is read the word and you will see that God looked at the natural before he called people into the spiritual. In other words, He wants us naturally responsible before we can have spiritual responsibility. When we line up to his plan naturally then we are in the best position to be a spiritual light to the world.

**1Tim. 5:8 But if any provide not for his own, and specially for those of his own house, he hath denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel.**