

Why Are We Here?

Those of us old enough to have completed our schooling may have found ourselves living and working in places we did not anticipate or perhaps even envision. Job opportunities, family situations, and circumstances beyond our control may have caused some of us to live in this area and attend and or be members of the Karns congregation. A small book titled *Bloom Where You Are Planted* expresses the Christian's responsibility to be faithful and fruitful where ever we are planted.

Numerous biblical stories tell of people put in circumstances and places they did not choose to be, yet served God in exemplary ways. Joseph was sold by his brothers as a slave and carried to a foreign land but served God's purpose in a very difficult situation. Moses, on the other hand, found himself in a palace with all the advantages of living in Pharaoh's court in Egypt, and yet served God by leading His people to the Promised Land. There is Daniel, taken as a captive to Babylon, the apostle Paul, a prisoner in Rome, and many others who have served God where they were planted.

We observe from these biblical examples God uses prepared people to serve His purposes on earth. How can we be prepared to God serve in the Karns community? God's formula for being prepared, as stated by Peter, says to the following Christian graces to your faith: virtue, knowledge, self-control, perseverance, godliness, brotherly kindness and love (I Pet. 1:5-7). If these things are ours, we will be prepared, fruitful, and furthermore, we will make our calling and election sure.

For the elders,
Don Denton