

# SHAPED FOR GREATNESS



SHEPHERD  
CHURCH

ABILITIES & PERSONAL STYLE | MAY 12, 2024

**MATTHEW 20:26 (GW)** <sup>26</sup>BUT THAT'S NOT THE WAY IT'S GOING TO BE AMONG YOU. WHOEVER WANTS TO BECOME GREAT AMONG YOU WILL BE YOUR SERVANT.

**Spiritual Gifts** are special \_\_\_\_\_ that are distributed by the Holy Spirit to every believer according to God's design and grace. Spiritual gifts are given to glorify God and for the common good of the Body of Christ. Answers **what** I do when I serve.

**Heart** (or Passion) is the God-given \_\_\_\_\_ that compels us to make a *spiritual* difference in a particular area of ministry or life where God is glorified, and people are edified. Answers **where** I serve.

**Ability** is a \_\_\_\_\_ aptitude or acquired proficiency. Answers **what** I can do when I serve.

1. God has given us all certain abilities . . . something that we are naturally good at.

- Received from our \_\_\_\_\_ parents.
- Present from \_\_\_\_\_ birth but can developed.
- Benefits people in \_\_\_\_\_ realm.
- Results are usually \_\_\_\_\_.
- Advances \_\_\_\_\_ plans.
- Without God they can be used \_\_\_\_\_.

By God through the Holy Spirit  
Present at spiritual birth.  
Benefits people in spiritual realm.  
Results are often eternal.  
Advances God's plans.  
Honors God and edifies others.

A. Sometimes (maybe often) a natural talent can be \_\_\_\_\_ by the Holy Spirit.

2. Three reasons our abilities are important:

A. God has given us our abilities for a \_\_\_\_\_.

**Ephesians 4:7 (Living Bible)** <sup>7</sup>However, Christ has given each of us special abilities—whatever he wants us to have . . .

B. With our abilities, we are also given \_\_\_\_\_.

**Matthew 25:15, 19 (NIV84)** <sup>15</sup>To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey . . . <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them.

C. Our abilities create \_\_\_\_\_ for ministry.

**1 Samuel 17:33-36, 40 (The Living Bible)** <sup>33</sup> . . . "How can a kid like you fight with a man like him? You are only a boy, and he has been in the army since he was a boy!" <sup>34</sup>But David persisted. "When I am taking care of my father's sheep," he said, "and a lion or a bear comes and grabs a lamb from the flock, <sup>35</sup>I go after it with a club and take the lamb from its mouth. If it turns on me, I catch it by the jaw and club it to death. <sup>36</sup>I have done this to both lions and bears, and I'll do it to this heathen Philistine too, for he has defied the armies of the living God! . . . <sup>40</sup>Then he picked up five smooth stones from a stream and put them in his shepherd's bag and, armed only with his shepherd's staff and sling, started across to Goliath.

- David used his \_\_\_\_\_ to meet the opportunity to defeat the enemy of God's people.

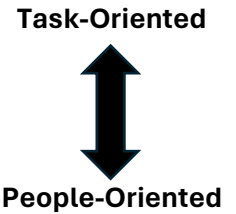
**Personality** (Personal Style) is our characteristic pattern of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. It is not who we are, but it influences how we act and react in most situations. Answers **how** I serve. *Psalm 139:13 (NIV84)* <sup>13</sup>For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

1. Your personality influences the way you \_\_\_\_\_ and interact with people and the world around you.  
 A. Personal style is connected to how you \_\_\_\_\_ to serve and is connected to your personality.

2. Two questions that help discern your personal style:

A. How are you \_\_\_\_\_?

- Most of us are energized by accomplishing tasks or being with people.
- This reflects how you receive energy and focus your effort.



B. How are your \_\_\_\_\_?

- Most of us are either structured or unstructured.
- This reflects how you organize your world.



3. Cautions surrounding your personality and personal style.

A. Differences are good, and no style is wrong. Your style is right style for you!

B. Our style \_\_\_\_\_ our behavior, but it does not \_\_\_\_\_ our behavior.

4. Why is this important?

A. Serving within your personal style \_\_\_\_\_ your strengths and makes you more efficient and effective.

- When we serve in line with our personal style we have more \_\_\_\_\_ relationships.
- When we serve in line with our personal style we have increased \_\_\_\_\_.
- When we serve in line with our personal style decreases \_\_\_\_\_.

**NEXT STEPS:**

1. Recognize that your abilities are ministry opportunities and let God know you are willing and available with the abilities He's given you.

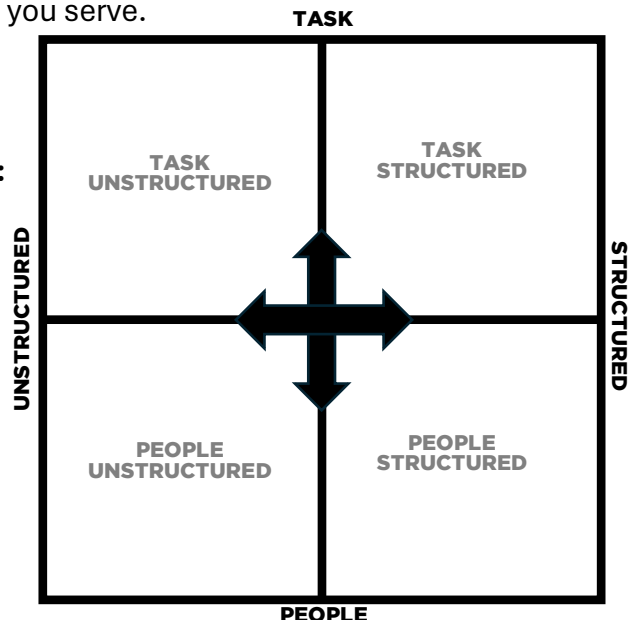
2. \*Identify your personal style by taking the assessment to determine how you might best serve.

3. Begin asking God and exploring where He would have you serve.

- Serving God's purposes **inside** the Church.
- Serving God's purposes **outside** the Church.

**RESOURCES AVAILABLE SOON AND COMING EVENTS:**

- We will have a packet available that describes every job that needs done in the church.
- We will be hosting a **MINISTRY EXPO** coming up on **Sunday June 2**



\*Personal Style Assessment Available