

Your SHAPE Connects To Your Purpose (PT 1)

Text: Ephesians 2:8-10 - New International Version

8 For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—

9 not by works, so that no one can boast.

10 For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

(Slide)

Question! What would church look like if every believer was a minister?

In order for the church to stop doing church as usual we have to ask what is the church? There are many people who think that the church is a physical building. (Picture Of A Church Building)

Can we all agree that the church is not a physical building? The church is a body. In the New Testament the church is called the body of Christ.

(Picture of a body)

Romans 12:4-5 - New Living Translation

4 Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special function,

5 so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other.

Colossians 1:17-18 - New International Version

17 He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

18 And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy.

We are formed by God and given a function to fulfill his purpose.

The Call of Jeremiah

4 The word of the Lord came to me, saying,

5

“Before I formed you in the womb I knew^[a] you,
before you were born I set you apart;
I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

6 “Alas, Sovereign Lord,” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am too young.”

7 But the Lord said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am too young.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you.

8 Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the Lord.

9 Then the Lord reached out his hand and touched my mouth and said to me, “I have put my words in your mouth.

10 See, today I appoint you over nations and kingdoms to uproot and tear down, to destroy and overthrow, to build and to plant.”

Like Jeremiah we need a paradigm shift.

a **paradigm shift** is defined as "an important change that happens when the usual way of thinking about or doing something is replaced by a new and different way."



You may have seen this picture before. When you look at this picture what do you see? Some of you will see one picture and some will see two pictures.

What does SHAPE stand for?

S - Spiritual Gifts

H - Heart

A - Abilities

P - Personality

E- Experience

Definition of Spiritual Gifts:

Spiritual gifts are divine abilities distributed by the Holy Spirit to every believer according to God's design and grace for the common good of the body of Christ. - Bruce Bugbee

The Benefits of Spiritual Gifts:

- Your spiritual gift is your job description. What should I do?
- Rom. 12:6-8
- The body of Christ becomes healthy, unified and mature.
- 1 Cor. 14:12, Eph. 4:4:11-16
- God is glorified when we use of gift(s)
- Matt 5:16

3 Things to Remember:

- Know and use your Spiritual Gift(s) - 1 Cor. 12:1
- Do not neglect your Spiritual Gift(s) - 1 Tim 4:14
- Be a good steward of your Spiritual Gift(s) - 1 Peter 4:10