

Your SHAPE Connects to your Purpose PT 2

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**.

* “For we are His workmanship created in Christ Jesus.” The Greek word translated “**workmanship**” is *poiema*, from which we derive our English word “poem.” **It means “that which is made, a manufactured product.”** **In other words, our conversion is not the end; it is the beginning. We are a part of God’s “new creation” (2 Cor. 5:17), and God continues to work in us to make us what He wants us to be.** His purpose is to make us more like Christ (Rom. 8:29).

Quick Review:

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

3 Things We Learned About Spiritual Gifts

- 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
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H - Heart

Colossians 3:23-24 - New International Version

23 Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters,

24 since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving.

- Like thumbprints we all have a unique heartbeat. Your heart beat is an indicator for where you are to serve. The things we care about or have a burden for is where we should get involved.

Three ways your heart or passion is directed:

a passion for a role (what you like to do)

a passion for specific people (whom you like to help)

a passion for a cause (what you would like to see changed).

A - Abilities

Matt 25:14-15 - New Living Translation

14 “Again, the Kingdom of Heaven can be illustrated by the story of a man going on a long trip. He called together his servants and entrusted his money to them while he was gone. **15** He gave five bags of silver^[b] to one, two bags of silver to another, and one bag of silver to the last—dividing it in proportion to their abilities. He then left on his trip.

- Since your natural abilities are from God, they are just as important as your spiritual gifts. The only difference is that you were given them at birth.
- Write a list of things that you enjoy and do well. Ask someone who knows you to give you feedback on what you do well.

P - Personality

Psalms 139:13-14 - New Living Translation

13 You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body
and knit me together in my mother’s womb.

14 Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex!
Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it.

Your personality will affect *how* and *where* you use your spiritual gifts and abilities. For instance, two people may have the same gift of evangelism, but if one is introverted and the other is extroverted, that gift will be expressed in different ways.

E - Experiences

Proverbs 22:6 - New International Version

6 Start children off on the way they should go,
and even when they are old they will not turn from it.

Ministry experiences: How have you served God in the past?

Work experiences: What jobs have you been most effective in and enjoyed most?

Educational experiences: What were your favorite subjects in school?

Spiritual experiences: What have been your most meaningful times with God?

Painful experiences: From what problems, hurts, thorns, and trials have you learned?

What's Possible? Here is an example:

After taking the Spiritual Gifts Assessment, John's gift profile is:

Spiritual Gifts: Encouragement/Giving/Teaching

Personal Style: Structure/People

Passion: Financial Stewardship

Possible ways to serve:

Personal Finance Trainer

Finance Committee Member

Family Finance Coach

Finance Development/Fundraising