

Life Group Guide | May 16

S.H.A.P.E. ~ “A - Abilities”



A guide for Life Groups, families or individual study. Feel free to use the back of this sheet for notes. Life Group materials, including videos, are available at redeemerconnect.com/life-groups or on our new Redeemer Connects mobile app, downloadable from the iTunes and the Google Play stores.

FOLLOWING JESUS #1

Before your Life Group meets, please take the “Abilities Assessment” available on the Redeemer website: redeemerconnect.com/abilities. For more information about the S.H.A.P.E. components, go to redeemerconnect.com/shape. (See QR codes on next page.)

Once you have completed your assessment, please add your result to your Realm profile at e.onrealm.org/serving. Add your Abilities to where it says Skills and Interests.

OPENING PRAYER

Lord of variety, we thank you for the abilities, skills, and talents you have placed within us. May we discover, recognize, and develop all that you have blessed us with. Help us find our place and work together for your glory and for the benefit of our community. In your name we pray, Amen.

CONNECTING QUESTION

The human body was created to work together. What has been your experience when body parts are not working properly? What effect did it have on the rest of your body?

SCRIPTURE READING

Read Aloud & Meditate on God’s Word: 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

WATCH VIDEO | SESSION 3

EXPLORE THE TEXT

1. According to 1 Corinthians 12:12-14, what kind of people make up the body of Christ? (also Galatians 3:28, Colossians 3:11). What does it mean and how do you feel about there being such diversity in the family of God and variety in the Body of Christ?
2. Read Exodus 31:1-11. What skills are mentioned here? Who gave them and for what purpose? What does this say to you about how God works in the Body of Christ today?
3. God has given each of us abilities, talents, and skills (such as physical coordination, athletic ability, using words to teach or write, math, music, mechanics, wood working, gardening, sewing, etc.). Some come naturally, some through hard work and much practice. What are some of your abilities and skills? How have you developed them?

4. Do you have more “up-front” abilities like speaking or teaching, or more “behind the scenes” skills, like helping and serving? What does Paul say about honoring the work of all parts of the body? (also see Romans 12:3-5).
5. Name some skills and abilities, different from yours, that you see at work in the Redeemer family. Name some that you believe are absent in the Redeemer family. How have you been blessed by the abilities of members of our church family? How could those abilities that you believe are missing bless others in our church family? How can we discover those “missing” abilities and encourage them to be used in our church family?
6. How do you feel about your place in the Body of Christ...about what you have to offer... about your need for others and what they offer?
7. Read Acts 1:7-9. Do you think all Christians have the ability witness to others? Why or why not? What would you say to encourage a person who questions his or her ability to share their faith with others?

FOLLOWING JESUS #2

How are you using your skills, talents, or abilities in the Redeemer family? If you are not, how can this group help you find a place where you could serve?

SCRIPTURE FOR EXTRA STUDY

Romans 9:20-21; I Corinthians 10:31; Ephesians 2:11-18

LIFE GROUP OPTIONAL PRAYER TIME - HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

CLOSING PRAYER & THE LORD’S PRAYER

Pray for opportunities and courage to use the abilities God has given you to work with others within the Redeemer family and in the wider community. Pray that everyone would know how important their role is in the Body of Christ. Ask the Holy Spirit to empower us to function as a healthy, God-glorifying body of believers, so that others may be drawn to him.

Our Father...



Scan the Discover Your Shape QR code to access all five S.H.A.P.E. components.



Scan the Abilities QR code to take the assessment from a mobile device.