



Experiences
Personality
Abilities
Heart
Spiritual Gifts

My Abilities

The goal of our five week SHAPE series is to help you discover more about God's plans for you. Once you have your results from the prompts below, please list your own abilities in your SHAPE tool box cover. Fill-in blanks are provided inside the back cover page for each week's discoveries about yourself. If you've missed one of the previous weeks, please pick up those sections from the table below the TV monitor in the Tower Hall area.

FIVE MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT ABILITIES (Skills and Talents)

1. MYTH: People aren't born with skills. All skills must be learned by experience. This simply is not true. There are a number of skills which seem to be inborn and develop very early in infancy. When people say, "He just seems to have a natural talent for it", it's probably true.
2. MYTH: Those skills which must be learned, are learned primarily in the classroom. Actually some of your most basic skills were learned at home, "in the street", or somewhere outside the classroom.
3. MYTH: If you have certain abilities, you will be very aware that you have them. Again, that is not true. You're probably using a number of talents or skills that you are not even aware of. You need some process of skill identification.
4. MYTH: Skills that I use at work are only usable in that environment. I couldn't use them in ministry. Hopefully, by the end of this exercise, you'll see the fallacy of that idea. Be creative.
5. MYTH: Most people only have a few abilities. The truth is that many national studies have proven that the average person possesses from five hundred to seven hundred different skills.

HOW TO DISCOVER YOUR MOTIVATED ABILITIES

Look over your list of accomplishments again from last week's Heart assessment. Circle all verbs that denote actions performed while you were doing each achievement. Now compare those verbs to the list on the back of this page and place a check by those abilities you feel you have.

26 SPECIALIZED ABILITIES:

- Entertaining ability: to perform, act, dance, speak, magic
- Recruiting ability: to enlist and motive people to get involved
- Interview ability: to discover what others are really like
- Researching ability: to read, gather information, collect data
- Artistic ability: to conceptualize, picture, draw, paint, photograph, or make renderings
- Graphics ability: to lay out, design, create visual displays or banners
- Evaluating ability: to analyze data and draw conclusions
- Planning ability: to strategize, design and organize programs and events
- Managing ability: to supervise people to accomplish a task or event and coordinate the details involved
- Counseling ability: to listen, encourage and guide with sensitivity
- Teaching ability: to explain, train, demonstrate, tutor
- Writing ability: to write articles, letters, books
- Editing ability: to proofread or rewrite
- Promoting ability: to advertise or promote events and activities
- Repairing ability: to fix, restore, maintain
- Feeding ability: to create meals for large or small groups
- Recall ability: to remember or recall names and faces
- Mechanical operating ability: to operate equipment, tools or machinery
- Resourceful ability: to search out and find inexpensive materials or resources needed
- Counting ability: to work with numbers, data or money
- Classifying ability: to systematize and file books, data, records & materials so they can be retrieved easily
- Public Relations ability: to handle complaints and unhappy customers with care and courtesy
- Welcoming ability: to convey warmth, develop rapport, making others feel comfortable
- Composing ability: to write music or lyrics
- Landscaping ability: to do gardening and work with plants
- Decorating ability: to beautify a setting for a special event

DID YOU FIND YOUR BASIC MOTIVATIONAL ABILITIES IN THIS LIST?

Enter your greatest abilities in your SHAPE “tool box” booklet, on the space provided inside the back cover.