

Name _____



Finding My Own

SWAPP

A 'toolbox' of effective, practical self-assessments



*“You shaped me first inside, then out;
you formed me in my mothers womb.*

Psalms 139:13

“JUST WHAT IS MY SHAPE, ANYWAY?”

Your SHAPE is one-of-a-kind.

It's a combination of your

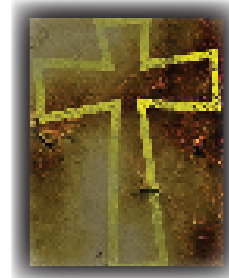
Spiritual Gifts

Heart

Abilities

Personality

Experiences



SPIRITUAL GIFT—God gave you a special ability called a Spiritual Gift when you began following Him. He gave you this gift to help build up your church family and reach out to the world with Christ's love.

HEART—God gave you a unique passion for particular activities, subjects and circumstances. He gave you a Heart for the things you feel deeply about to help define how and where He wants you to serve Him.

ABILITIES—You have Abilities, given to you before you accepted Christ, that God can use in specific ways to assist you in your ministry.

PERSONALITY—God needs a Personality in ministry that's exactly like yours! He wants to use you whether you're an extrovert or an introvert; whether you enjoy routine or variety.

EXPERIENCES—God has placed a multitude of Experiences in your life to help mold you for ministry. He can use the experiences in your background to help heal the hurts of others in your church and your community.



At each meeting, you will receive personal working tools to help you in your journey towards Discovering, Demonstrating and Deepening your SHAPE for ministry.

Each 'tool' can be kept in this convenient 'tool box folder' so you can reach for them again and again as you grow in your faith.

IDENTIFYING MY UNIQUE SHAPE

We've prepared and adapted several tools to help you discover and think through the five factors that make up who you are. You will be given one of these tools each week to complete on your own as homework.

YOUR GIFT will give you an overview of spiritual gifts and help you identify which ones you may have been given by God.

MY SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE _____

YOUR HEARTBEAT will help you clarify what you really love to do.

I LOVE _____

YOUR ABILITIES will help you appreciate your natural talents and vocational skills.

MY ABILITIES ARE _____

YOUR PERSONALITY will help you see how your God-given temperament can best be used in ministry.

MY PERSONALITY IS _____

YOUR EXPERIENCES will help you review your history to discover how God has prepared you for a unique ministry that only you can fulfill.

SPIRITUAL, PAINFUL, & EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES HAVE PREPARED ME FOR

“There are different kinds of GIFTS but the same Spirit gives them. There are different WAYS OF SERVING, but the same Lord is served. There are different ABILITIES to perform service, but the same God gives ability to everyone for their service. The Spirit’s presence is shown IN SOME WAY in each one, for the good of all.” 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

REMEMBER:

1. Have fun! These are not “tests”! There are no right or wrong answers. The purpose is to show how you are a unique blend!
2. No one is “rating” you on this. We’re interested in your feelings, not others. However, it may be helpful to ask for additional input from those closest to you *after* you’ve filled in your own responses.
3. The value of each of these tools will vary depending on your age, how long you’ve been a Christian, your background, your honesty, and how much time and serious thinking you’re willing to invest in them!
4. AS YOU UTILIZE EACH TOOL, TRANSFER YOUR RESULTS TO THE BLANKS ABOVE FOR A COMPREHENSIVE LOOK AT YOUR SPECIAL SHAPE!



5 PRACTICES

- ✚ Evangelism & Mission
- ✚ Worship
- ✚ Fellowship
- ✚ Discipleship
- ✚ Ministry/Service

4 TRUTHS

✚ The Sovereignty of God:

God is the supreme authority throughout the universe.

✚ The Authority of Scripture:

Our knowledge of God and God's purpose for humanity comes from the Bible, particularly what is revealed in the New Testament through the life of Jesus Christ.

✚ Justification by Grace through Faith in Christ:

Our being made righteous (justified) is God's generous gift to us and not the result of our own accomplishments.

✚ The Priesthood of All Believers:

It is everyone's job - ministers and lay people alike - to share this Good News with the whole world.

3 SCRIPTURES

✚ The Great Commission:

Jesus said to them, "All authority on heaven and earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you to the very end of the age."

✚ The Great Commandment:

Jesus replied, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself'"

✚ The Role of Church Leaders:

The gifts he (Christ) gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

2 TRAITS

We are pursuing two distinctive ministry and leadership traits.

✚ **Shared Ministry:** The ministry of churches can be accomplished by pastors directing ministry, a leadership board directing ministries, and committees directing ministries. Our ministries here can be accomplished by enabling those involved in doing the ministry to direct the ministries.

This enabling has three facets—Empowering, Training, and Coordinating.

Empowering

- Decisions are made at the level closest to the hands-on ministry.
- Decisions are made by teams, not individuals, whenever possible.
- Decisions are consistent with our 5, 4, 3 lists above.
- Decisions are made in consultation with other affected ministries.

Training

- True discipleship is a life-long process of growing in Christ-likeness. We seek to excel in training ministry participants and leaders for the journey.

Coordinating

- Decisions will be communicated inward, outward, and upward.

✚ **Intentional Ministry:** Churches can be guided by policy, pastors, programs, or past practices. The primary guide for us is intentionality in achieving our ministry practices. The 5 practices (above, left) answer the question "Why do we exist?" To be intentional, we ask the question "How will we achieve these practices?"