

THE SHAPE OF YOU

SHAPED FOR SIGNIFICANCE – PART 1

START TALKING. WITH AN ICEBREAKER QUESTION:

- What is one of the worst gifts you've ever received? Or given?

START THINKING. ASK QUESTIONS THAT WILL GET YOUR GROUP THINKING.

- If you were to ask the social media crowd, "What makes you, you?" what would they say?
- Read the scriptures on the next pages in preparation for the following conversation.

START SHARING. CHOOSE THE QUESTIONS THAT WILL CREATE OPENNESS.

- This new series focuses on two main truths: You matter to God and you were shaped for a purpose. Which one is most real to you? Why is the other one more distant to you?
- SHAPE means Spiritual Gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality, Experiences. Describe how they are inter-related in your life. Share a specific example. (i.e. My experience of going through a divorce softened my heart toward people)
- Pastor Mark shared that your SHAPE is fixed. Share something about your SHAPE today that hasn't changed since you were 8 years old. (i.e. I still like to organize things)
- The rest of the message focused on the "S" Spiritual Gifts. If you think you are using your gifts to minister, how did you discover that? What was your method to discovering your Spiritual Gifts? (i.e. experimenting)
- "Discovering your gift through ministry/serving is easier than discovering your ministry through your gifts." How has that been true in your life?
- Pastor Mark shared the illustration of desert being dropped on the floor, and the different kinds of gifts and how they would respond, (Serving: "Let me help you pick that up!") How do you think you would respond to seeing desert dropped on the floor? If your LifeGroup has been together for a while, how would those closest to you think you would respond?
- Scripture tells us to discover, develop, and use our gifts. To not neglect our gifts. To fan them into flame. To use them to serve others. What are you doing with your gifts that is expanding the kingdom of God?

START PRAYING. BE BOLD, AND PRAY WITH POWER.

- Father, forgive me for selling you short by not exercising what You have given me. Deliver me from comparing myself to others. I lift my gifts to you. Show me how to use them for others. Amen.

START DOING. COMMIT TO A STEP AND LIVE IT OUT THIS WEEK.

- When you do something you enjoy this week, realize that perhaps God made you good at that. Figure out one application of using that skill to expand God's kingdom.

Job 10:8 (NIV)

⁸ "Your hands shaped me and made me. Will you now turn and destroy me?"

Psalm 139:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

Romans 12:6-8 (NIV)

⁶ We have different gifts, according to the grace given us. If a man's gift is prophesying, let him use it in proportion to his faith.

⁷ If it is serving, let him serve; if it is teaching, let him teach;

⁸ if it is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is contributing to the needs of others, let him give generously; if it is leadership, let him govern diligently; if it is showing mercy, let him do it cheerfully.

1 Corinthians 12:1 (NIV)

¹ Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant.

1 Corinthians 12:4-6 (NIV)

⁴ There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit.

⁵ There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.

⁶ There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men.

1 Timothy 4:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you.

2 Timothy 1:6 (NIV)

⁶ For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

1 Corinthians 12:27 (NIV)

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

1 Peter 4:10 (NIV)

¹⁰ Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.