

PERSONALITY AND EXPERIENCE

SHAPED FOR SIGNIFICANCE – PART 3

START TALKING. WITH AN ICEBREAKER QUESTION:

- What is a fun experience, perhaps unique, you've had that you'd be glad to share?

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

- How many personality "types" can your group brainstorm in 60 seconds? More than 15?
- Read the scriptures on the next pages in preparation for the following conversation.

START SHARING. CHOOSE THE QUESTIONS THAT WILL CREATE OPENNESS.

- How would you describe your personality to a stranger?
- What type/kind of person do you seem to have the hardest time getting along with?
- When should a personality characteristic be "reclassified" as a character flaw?
- Who is someone's personality in the Bible you think you would have a hard time getting along with? (Don't say Satan!)
- Sunday we were challenged to be aware, accept, and appreciate, personality differences. What is hardest for you? Why?
- What can we learn by all the different personalities Jesus saw amongst his disciples?
- Experience: What experience are you most thankful you've NOT encountered? Limit self to one. Has anyone in the group had that experience?
- Examine your experiences: What has been your most difficult life experience? What have you learned from it?
- When have your life experiences benefitted someone else?
- Whose life experiences have you benefitted from, without having to go through them yourself? Doesn't have to be someone you know. Could be an Author, etc.
- Read 1 Cor 4:2 outloud. If God were to ask, "What did you do with the SHAPE (Spiritual Gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality, Experience) I gave you?" what will you say?

START PRAYING. BE BOLD, AND PRAY WITH POWER.

- Father. You know me better than I know myself and still want to use me! Help me believe what you believe for me! Amen.

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

- If you are not serving, don't decide to start serving. **Commit an action** that moves you toward serving. (Make a phone call, go to Growth Track, etc.)

Proverbs 19:11 (MSG)

¹¹ Smart people know how to hold their tongue; their grandeur is to forgive and forget.

Galatians 1:13-14 (MSG)

¹³ I'm sure that you've heard the story of my earlier life when I lived in the Jewish way. In those days I went all out in persecuting God's church. I was systematically destroying it.

¹⁴ I was so enthusiastic about the traditions of my ancestors that I advanced head and shoulders above my peers in my career.

Romans 15:17 (MSG)

¹⁷ Looking back over what has been accomplished and what I have observed, I must say I am most pleased—in the context of Jesus, I'd even say *proud*, but only in that context.

Romans 12:10 (MSG)

¹⁰ Be good friends who love deeply; practice playing second fiddle.

Genesis 50:20 (MSG)

²⁰ Don't you see, you planned evil against me but God used those same plans for my good, as you see all around you right now—life for many people.

Romans 5:3-4 (MSG)

³ There's more to come: We continue to shout our praise even when we're hemmed in with troubles, because we know how troubles can develop passionate patience in us,

⁴ and how that patience in turn forges the tempered steel of virtue, keeping us alert for whatever God will do next.

Romans 8:28 (MSG)

²⁸ That's why we can be so sure that every detail in our lives of love for God is worked into something good.

Philippians 1:12 (MSG)

¹² I want to report to you, friends, that my imprisonment here has had the opposite of its intended effect. Instead of being squelched, the Message has actually prospered.

Philippians 4:21-22 (MSG)

²¹ Give our regards to every Christian you meet. Our friends here say hello.

²² All the Christians here, especially the believers who work in the palace of Caesar, want to be remembered to you.

Galatians 3:4 (MSG)

⁴ Did you go through this whole painful learning process for nothing? It is not yet a total loss, but it certainly will be if you keep this up!

Deuteronomy 11:2 (MSG)

² Today it's very clear that it isn't your children who are front and center here: They weren't in on what GOD did, didn't see the acts, didn't experience the discipline, didn't marvel at his greatness, the way he displayed his power in the miracle-signs and deeds

Proverbs 27:17 (MSG)

¹⁷ You use steel to sharpen steel, and one friend sharpens another.

1 Corinthians 4:2 (MSG)

² The requirements for a good guide are reliability and accurate knowledge.