

Focus on *your* Family



Shaping a Servant's Heart

Focus on *your* Family



This week's Purpose is
Serving
or
Ministry

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Where does Ministry Begin?

Acts 1:8 (NIV)

At Home

...and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

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What is Ministry?

Real Ministry is Seeing a
Need and Seeking to
Meet It.

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Joshua 24:15 (NIV)

But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your forefathers served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. **But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."**

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Joshua 24:31 (NIV)

Israel served the LORD throughout the lifetime of Joshua and of the elders who outlived him and who had experienced everything the LORD had done for Israel.

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What do those watching
the model need to see?

Psalm 100:2 (KJV)
Serve the Lord with
gladness:

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Romans 12:11-12 (MSG)

Don't burn out; keep yourselves fueled and aflame. Be alert servants of the Master, cheerfully expectant. Don't quit in hard times;

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Deut. 10:12 (NIV)

And now, O Israel, what does the LORD your God ask of you but to fear the LORD your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul,

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Serving says three Things

1. I Respect God.

2. I Obey God.

3. I Love God.

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How to help shape
our children to
serve God and
minister to others?

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Proverbs 22:6 (AMP)

Train up a child in the way he should go [and in keeping with his individual gift or bent], and when he is old he will not depart from it.

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Helping to Shape

- ◆ **Help your child
discover their gifts**
- ◆ **Help your child
develop their gifts**

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- ◆ **Teach them that all gifts come from God.**
- ◆ **Show them how to use their gift to serve God.**

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Looking for Teachable Moments

Matthew 25:35 (NKJV)

for I was hungry and you
gave Me food; I was
thirsty and you gave Me
drink; I was a stranger
and you took Me in;

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1 John 3:17 (NKJV)

But whoever has this world's goods, and sees his brother in need, and shuts up his heart from him, how does the love of God abide in him?

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Matthew 25:35-36 (NKJV)
for I was hungry and you
gave Me food; I was thirsty
and you gave Me drink; I
was a stranger and you
took Me in; I was naked and
you clothed Me; I was sick
and you visited Me; I was in
prison and you came to Me.

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Matthew 25:40 (MSG)

...I'm telling the solemn truth: Whenever you did one of these things to someone overlooked or ignored, that was me – you did it to me.

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**What is your plan to
teach our children to
better use their Time,
Talents and Treasure.**

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To learn more join
Sunday School
And a Small Group

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Included in your study

CHARTING
YOUR
FAMILY'S
SPIRITUAL
COURSE

WHAT IS YOUR S.H.A.P.E. FOR SERVICE

Use to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. **1 Corinthians 12:7** (NIV)
...called us to minister and serve. As we look for a place of service in the family, the church, and the community, we do not have to look far. God has created us with a "S.H.A.P.E." to serve. This is an acronym that stands for:
1. Spiritual Gifts - a special ability given by the Holy Spirit to build the church and reach the community.
2. Heart - God gives each of us various interests. God usually calls us to do what we are interested in.
3. Abilities - These can be things that come naturally or are learned. They are what you are good at.
4. Personality - This is who you are: are you an introvert or extrovert, Thinker or Feeler. All are needed.
5. Experiences - Life deals these out. We can use them for good or withhold what we have learned.

A Few Truths about Spiritual Gifts

1. Only believers have spiritual gifts. **1 Corinthians 12:14**
2. You can't earn or work for a spiritual gift. **Ephesians 4:7**
3. The Holy Spirit decides what gifts I get. **1 Corinthians 12:11**
4. I am to develop the gifts God gives me. **Romans 11:25; 1 Timothy 4:6**
5. It's a sin to waste the gifts God gave me. **1 Corinthians 4:1-2; Matthew 25:14-30**
6. Using my gifts honors God and expands me. **John 15:5**
7. A spiritual gift is much like a muscle: the more you use it, the stronger it becomes.

Gifts Inventory

God wants us to know what spiritual gifts He has given us. Each of us has one or more gifts. No one has all the gifts. There are four main lists of gifts found in the Bible in **Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, 27-31; Ephesians 4:11-12** and **1 Peter 4:9-11**. There are other passages that mention or illustrate gifts not included in these lists. Here is a list of some of the gifts. As you read this list, prayfully consider whether the definition describes you. www.godislove.com/charisma/charisma.htm

ADMINISTRATION (Organization) - **1 Cor. 12** - This is the ability to recognize the gifts of others and recruit them to assist by: (1) the ability to organize and manage people, resources, and time for effective ministry.
APOSTLE - **1 Cor. 12** - This is the ability to found churches, churches, and oversee their development.
DISCERNMENT - **1 Cor. 12** - This is the ability to bring insight between the spiritual and the physical; to detect incorrects; to lead in another's life and confront in love.
ENCOURAGEMENT (Edification) - **Romans 12** - This is the ability to motivate God's people to apply and act on biblical principles, especially when they are discouraged or wavering in their faith. It is also the ability to bring out the best in others and challenge them to develop their potential.
EVANGELISM - **John 4** - This is the ability to communicate the Gospel of Jesus Christ to unbelievers in a personal, non-threatening way and to create opportunities for those who have not yet responded to the faith.
FAITH - **1 Cor. 12** - This is the ability to trust in God for what cannot be seen and to act on God's promise, regardless of what the circumstances indicate. This includes a willingness to risk failure in pursuit of God's plan, expecting God to handle the obstacles.
GIVING - **Romans 12** - This is the ability to generously contribute material resources and/or money beyond the needs of the church and family and to be stingy. It includes the ability to manage money so that it may be given to support the needs of others.
HOSPITALITY - **1 Peter 4:9-10** - This is the ability to make others, especially strangers, feel warmly welcomed, accepted, and comfortable in the church family and the ability to coordinate, direct, and promote relationships.
LEADERSHIP - **Romans 12** - This is the ability to clarify and communicate the purpose and direction of others and to bring them together in a way that attracts others to be involved including the ability to motivate others, by example, to work together in accomplishing aims by God.

What is Your S.H.A.P.E. for service

More Tools at the Information Center

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CHARTING
YOUR
FAMILY'S
SPIRITUAL
COURSE

Devotions
to read
as you go can be
found at the

**Family Information
Center**

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Take it Home Work

1. If we look a little deeper into the lives around us, what needs might we see?
2. Which of those needs can we, as a family, meet this week?
3. Find and act on one practical way that you can serve together with your spouse or model serving for your kids.