

**Discovering  
MY  
SHAPE  
FOR  
MINISTRY**

C.L.A.S.S. 301

**DMS**

**First Baptist Church  
Coahoma**

**Student Workbook**

**Dates: Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> 2014  
@ 6:00 pm**

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**Session 1 – Oct. 19<sup>th</sup>**

**“DISCOVERING MY SHAPE”**

For MINISTRY

**THE PURPOSE FOR THIS CLASS:**

*"(God) has given... pastors and teachers to prepare God's people for works of ministry, so the body of Christ may be built up." Eph. 4: 11-12*

**THE PRINCIPLE UNDERGIRDING THIS CLASS:**

**MY MINISTRY IS DETERMINED BY MY \_\_\_\_\_ !**

**What God made me to BE determines what He intends for me to DO.**

I will understand the **purpose** I was created for when I understand the kind of **person** I am. This is the secret of knowing God's will for my life!

God is consistent in His plan for each of our lives. He would not give us inborn talents and temperaments, spiritual gifts, and all sorts of life experiences and then not use them! By reviewing and studying these factors, we can discover the ministry has for us... the *unique* way God intends for us to serve Him.

The two results of discovering my SHAPE for ministry is:

fruitfulness and fulfillment.

**THE FOCUS OF THIS CLASS**

An \_\_\_\_\_ approach to ministry rather than an \_\_\_\_\_ approach.

We will focus on **Five Personal Factors** that have combined to shape the "real" you. By identifying the specific traits you possess in each of these areas, the ministry God has designed you for will become crystal clear!

**THE GOAL OF THIS STUDY:**

That you will **discover** your unique design (S.H.A.P.E.) for ministry and because of that--feel more comfortable with committing to **developing** and **using** your God-given gifts and abilities in serving God and others through your church family.

- Primary Ministry
- Secondary Ministry

**WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT MINISTRY---WHAT IS MINISTRY?**

**DEFINITION:** (Greek "diakonos" - "to serve") "Ministry IS USING WHATEVER GOD HAS GIVEN ME TO SERVE HIM AND THE NEEDS OF OTHERS"

**We minister in 3 directions**

- \* To \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 13:3)
- \* To \_\_\_\_\_ (Heb. 6:10)
- \* To \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 5:13)

## WE MINISTER TO 3 AREAS OF NEEDS.

1. To peoples \_\_\_\_\_ needs.

**Matt. 25:35-36, 40** "(God says) *I was hungry and you fed me, ... thirsty and you gave me a drink... needed clothes and you clothed me... sick and you cared for me... in prison and you visited me... Whenever you have done this to the least person, you did it to me.*"

**Matt. 10:42 (LB)** "*If, as my representative, you give even a cup of cold water to a little child, you will surely be rewarded.*"

2. To people's \_\_\_\_\_ needs.

**1 Thess. 5:14 (GN)** "... Warn the idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with all."

3. To people's \_\_\_\_\_ needs.

**2 Cor. 5:18** "... God reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation."

**Col 1:28, 29** "*We proclaim Christ, counseling and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.*"

## THE PURPOSE OF MINISTRY

**1 Cor. 12** "*There are different kinds of service to God, but it is the same Lord we are serving. The Holy Spirit displays God's power through each of us as a means of helping the entire church. All of you together are the one Body of Christ and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it.*"

GOD WANTS TO USE ME TO \_\_\_\_\_

## THE PRIORITY OF MINISTRY (Why should I be interested?)

1. I'VE BEEN \_\_\_\_\_ FOR MINISTRY

**Eph. 2:10** "*For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.*"

2. I'VE BEEN \_\_\_\_\_ FOR MINISTRY!

**2 Tim. 1:9 (LB)** "*It is He who saved us and chose us for his holy work, not because we deserved it but because that was his plan long before the world began...*"

3. I'VE BEEN \_\_\_\_\_ INTO MINISTRY!

**Gal. 1:15 (GN)** "*God, in his grace, chose me even before I was born, and called me to serve him.*"

**Eph. 4:1** "*I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.*"

**1 Peter 2:9-10 (LB)** "... You have been chosen by God himself -- you are priests of the King... you are God's very own -- all this so that you may show to others how God called you out of darkness into his wonderful light! Once you were less than nothing, now you are God's own!"

**1 Peter 2:5 (GN)** "... you will serve as holy priests..."

**I am not who I think I am, I am not who you think I am, But I really am who God says I am!**

## A LIFE CHANGING TRUTH - MY PRIMARY IDENTITY:

I AM A \_\_\_\_\_ OF JESUS CHRIST!

**4. I'VE BEEN \_\_\_\_\_ FOR MINISTRY!**

**1 Peter 4:10 (LB)** "God has given each of you some social abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God's many kinds of blessing."

**5. I'VE BEEN \_\_\_\_\_ FOR MINISTRY!**

**Matt. 28:18-19** "(Jesus said) All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples..."

**2 Cor. 5:20** "We are therefore Christ's ambassadors..."

**6. I'M \_\_\_\_\_ TO MINISTRY!**

**Mt. 20:28 (LB)** "(Jesus) Your attitude must be like my own, for I, the Messiah, did not come to be served, but to serve..."

**Col. 4:17 (KJV)** "(To Archippus) Take heed to the ministry you've received from the Lord and fulfill it."

**7. I'M TO BE \_\_\_\_\_ FOR MINISTRY**

**Eph. 4:11-12** "God gave pastors and teachers to prepare God's people for works of ministry so that the body of Christ may be built up..."

**8. THE BODY OF CHRIST \_\_\_\_\_ MY MINISTRY!**

**1 Cor. 12:27 (LB)** "All of you together are the one body of Christ and each of you is a separate and necessary part of it."

**Ministry always functions in the context of the \_\_\_\_\_**

**Matt. 9:36-37** "When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said, 'The harvest is great but the workers are few. Ask the Lord to send our workers into his harvest field.'"

**9. I AM \_\_\_\_\_ FOR MY MINISTRY!**

**Romans 14:12** "So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God."

**Matt. 25:14-30** The Parable of the Talents:

**10. I WILL BE \_\_\_\_\_ FOR MY MINISTRY!**

**Col. 3:23, 24** "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward."

**Matt. 25:23** "Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your Master's happiness!"

**DISCOVERING HOW GOD HAS SHAPED ME FOR MINISTRY---  
HOW HAS GOD SHAPED ME?**

**Job 10:8a (GN)** "Your hands formed and shaped me..."

**Psalms 139:14-16 (LB)** "Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! It is amazing to think about. Your workmanship is marvelous... You were there while I was being formed... You saw me before I was born and scheduled each day of my life before I began to breathe."

**Rom. 9:20-21** "What right do you have, a human being, to cross-examine God? The pot has no right to say to the potter: 'Why did you make me this shape?' A potter can do what he likes with the clay!"

**In Ministry... Function follows Form!**

## MINISTRY IS DETERMINED BY SEVERAL FACTORS

**1 Cor. 12:4-7 (GN)** "There are different kinds of SPIRITUAL 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."

## MY S.H.A.P.E. WILL DETERMINE MY MINISTRY

S \_\_\_\_\_

**1 Cor. 7:7b** "... Each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that."

**QUESTION:** WHAT AM I GIFTED TO DO?

H \_\_\_\_\_

**Rev. 17:7** "God has put it into their hearts to accomplish his purpose..."

**Phil. 2:13 (NEB)** "For it is God who works in you, inspiring both the will and the deed, for his own chosen purpose!"

**QUESTION:** WHAT DO I LOVE TO DO?

A \_\_\_\_\_

**1 Cor. 12:6** "There are different abilities to perform service..."

**Exodus 31:3** "I (God)... have given him **skill, ability, and knowledge in all kinds of crafts...**"

**2 Cor. 3:5b** "... our **competence** comes from God."

**QUESTION:** WHAT NATURAL TALENTS AND SKILLS DO I HAVE?

P \_\_\_\_\_

"No one can really know what anyone else is thinking or what he is really like, except that person himself."

**1 Cor. 2:11 (LB)**

**QUESTION:** WHERE DOES MY PERSONALITY BEST SUIT ME TO SERVE?

E \_\_\_\_\_

\* **WHAT** \_\_\_\_\_ **EXPERIENCES HAVE I HAD?**

**Heb. 5:12-13** "There has been enough time for you to be teachers -- BUT you still need to be taught.. (you are) without any **experience** in the matter of right and wrong."

\* **WHAT** \_\_\_\_\_ **EXPERIENCES HAVE I HAD?**

**Prov 20:30 (GN)** "Sometimes it takes a painful experience to make us change our ways."

**2 Cor. 1:4 (GN)** "God helps us in our troubles, **so we are able to help others** who have all kinds of troubles, using the same help that we ourselves have received from God."

\* **WHAT** \_\_\_\_\_ **EXPERIENCES HAVE I HAD?**

**Prov. 4:13 (GN)** "Always remember what you have learned. You **education** is your life -- guard it well!"

\* **WHAT** \_\_\_\_\_ **EXPERIENCES HAVE I HAD?**

**2 Cor. 9:13** "Because of **the service by which you have proved yourselves**, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel..."

Your ministry will be most effective and fulfilling when you are using your GIFTS and ABILITIES in the area of HEART'S DESIRE in a way that best expresses your PERSONALITY and EXPERIENCE!

**SUCCESS IS DOING WHAT GOD MADE ME TO DO!**

**HOW PAUL'S MINISTRY WAS "SHAPED"**

### PAUL'S SPIRITUAL GIFTS

**2 Tim. 1:11** "And of this gospel I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher."

### PAUL'S HEART

**Rom. 15:20 (Ph)** "My constant ambition has been to preach the gospel where the name of Christ was previously unknown, and to avoid building on another man's foundation."

**Gal 2:8** "For God, who was at work in the ministry of Peter as an apostle to the Jews, was also at work in my ministry as an apostle to the Gentiles."

**Acts 20:24 (LB)** "Life is worth nothing unless I use it for doing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus..."

### PAUL'S ABILITY

**Acts 18:2b-4 (GN)** "... Paul went to see them, and stayed and worked with them, because **he earned his living by making tents**, just as they did. He **debated** in the synagogues every Sabbath, trying to convince both Jews and Gentiles."

### PAUL'S PERSONALITY

**Gal. 1:13-14 (Ph)** "For you have heard of my past... I persecuted the church with fanatical zeal... and did my best to destroy it... I was ahead of most of my contemporaries in the Jewish religion, and had a boundless enthusiasm..."

### PAUL'S EXPERIENCES

#### HIS SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES

- \* Watching Stephen be stone (Acts 8:1)
- \* Conversion on the Damascus Road (Acts 9:1-20)
- \* 3 years maturing in Arabia (Gal. 1:18)
- \* Special vision from God (2 Cor. 12:2-7)

#### HIS PAINFUL EXPERIENCES

**2 Cor. 11:23-27** "... I have been in prison more times... near death often... been whipped five times with 39 lashes by the Jews and three times by the Romans... once stoned... I've been in three shipwrecks... and once spent 24 hours in the water... In my travels I've been in danger from floods... robbers... enemies... wild animals and false friends... I've served long hours without sleep or food or shelter or even clothing..."

**2 Cor. 12:7** "To keep me from becoming conceited because of these great revelations, I was given a **thorn in my flesh**, a messenger from Satan, to torment me."

#### PAUL'S EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

**Acts 22:3 (Ph)** "I received my training at the feet of Gamaliel, and I was schooled in the strictest observance of our fathers' Law."

#### PAUL'S MINISTRY EXPERIENCES

Read the Book of Acts!