

## ENGAGING YOUR GOD GIVEN PURPOSE

*“Desire that your life count for something great! Long for your life to have eternal significance. Want this! Don’t coast through life without a passion.” John Piper*

We have been exploring together how God may be directing us toward participation in his Kingdom purposes by paying attention to our unique shape. We have used the acronym SHAPE to think about our Spiritual Gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality, and Experiences and how these various aspects of our lives could work together in revealing God’s fingerprints on our lives.

The **Spiritual Life Profile** is a tool to collect your discoveries this summer. What have you learned or discovered about yourself and what God is calling you to do for his kingdom?

**SELF-AWARENESS** – Enables us to \_\_\_\_\_ with God’s purpose.

**GOD’S KINGDOM PURPOSE** - The Great Commission:

*Then Jesus came to them and said, “All authority in heaven and on 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 always, to the very end of the age.” – Matthew 28:18-20*

**a. The Body of Christ - God’s Method (Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 12:12-20):**

*For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.*

*Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many. Now if the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body,” it would not for that reason stop being part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? But in fact God has placed the parts in the body, every one of them, just as he wanted them to be. If they were all one part, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, but one body.*

## PUTTING THE PIECES TOGETHER

*Commit to the Lord whatever you do, and he will establish your plans. – Proverbs 16:3*

As you look over your Spiritual Life Profile, as you look at all the pieces you have assembled on the table:

What patterns, themes, and connections do you see that could indicate how Jesus wants to use you, as a member of his body, to accomplish his Kingdom purpose?

What do your gifts, passion, abilities, personality, and experience suggest about your part to play?

What avenues of ministry might best benefit from your personality and experience?

What ministry opportunities would allow you to engage what you are most passionate about?

What ministries could best use someone with your gifts and abilities?

## STEWARDED THE GIFT OF YOUR ONE LIFE – Called to Serve

*Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. – 1 Peter 4:10*

**GRASP – 5 Steps to grasping God's purpose for your life (E. Rees):**

G – \_\_\_\_\_

R – \_\_\_\_\_

A – \_\_\_\_\_

S – \_\_\_\_\_

P – \_\_\_\_\_