

You <u>made</u> my whole being; you <u>formed</u> me in my mother's body. I praise you because you made me in an amazing and wonderful way . . . You saw my bones being formed as I took <u>shape</u> in my mother's body. When I was <u>put together</u> there, you saw my body as it was formed. All the days planned for me were written in your book before I was one day old. Psalm 139:13–16 (NCV)

You are a masterpiece; a one-of-a-kind work of art!

• God has a specific purpose for your life—a specific and unique "contribution" that only you can make. This is called your \_\_\_\_\_\_.

# Kingdom Purpose defined:

"Your specific contribution to the body of Christ, within your generation, that causes you to totally depend on God and authentically display His love toward others, all through the expression of your unique S.H.A.P.E."

-Erik Rees

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# What you need to know about your abilities

ABILITIES = Your natural talents. Those things you naturally love to do and that you are good at doing.

God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well.

Romans 12:6a (TLB)

"Everybody is a genius. But if a fish judges itself by its ability to climb a tree, it will live its whole life believing it is stupid." —attributed to Albert Einstein

## God SHAPED you

#### with specific abilities so that you may ...

- ... whatever you do, do everything to the glory of God.

God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another. I Peter 4:10 (NLT)

... make the most of whatever job you have for as long as God gives you life ... Yes, we should make the most of what God gives, both the bounty and the capacity to enjoy it, accepting what's given and delighting in the work. It's God's gift! Ecclesiastes 5:18–19 (MES)

Be sure to use the abilities God has given you ... Put these abilities to work; throw yourself into your tasks so that I Timothy 4:14–15 (TLB) everyone may notice your improvement and progress.

### to those in need

(Paul to Timothy) Tell them to use their money to do good. They should be rich in good works and should give happily to those in need, always being ready to share with others whatever God has given them. I Timothy 6:18 (TLB)

the church Why is it that he gives us these special abilities to do certain things best? It is that God's people will be equipped to do better work for him, building up the Church, the body of Christ, to a position of strength and maturity.

Ephesians 4:12 (TLB)

# If I don't use my God-given abilities,

and so does the church, the kingdom of God, and the world.

### **Discover your S.H.A.P.E.**

The Spiritual Gift assessment will be available on our website tomorrow, Monday, January 22, 2018. www.christchurchva.org/shape

# I Corinthians 10:31 (GW)

Others

God

#### Check the natural abilities you excel at and enjoy doing

**Administrating:** The ability to govern, run, rule **Building:** The ability to construct, make, assemble **Coaching:** The ability to prepare, instruct, train, equip, develop **Computing:** The ability to add, estimate, total, calculate **Connecting:** The ability to link together, involve, relate **Cooking:** The ability to prepare, serve, feed, cater **Coordinating**: The ability to organize, match, harmonize **Counseling:** The ability to guide, advise, support, listen, care for **Decorating:** The ability to beautify, enhance, adorn **Designing:** The ability to draw, create, picture, outline **Editing:** The ability to correct, amend, alter, improve **Encouraging:** The ability to cheer, inspire, support **Engineering:** The ability to construct, design, plan **Implementing:** The ability to apply, execute, make happen **Improving:** The ability to better, enhance, further, enrich Landscaping: The ability to garden, plant, improve **Leading:** The ability to pave the way, direct, excel, win **Managing:** The ability to run, handle, oversee **Mentoring:** The ability to advise, guide, teach **Motivating:** The ability to provoke, induce, prompt Organizing: The ability to simplify, arrange, fix, classify, coordinate **Performing:** The ability to sing, speak, dance, play an instrument **Planning:** The ability to arrange, map out, prepare **Repairing:** The ability to fix, mend, restore, heal **Serving:** The ability to help, assist, fulfill **Teaching:** The ability to explain, demonstrate, tutor **Welcoming:** The ability to entertain, greet, make comfortable Writing: The ability to compose, create, record

Major source: S.H.A.P.E., Finding & Fulfilling Your Unique Purpose For Life by Eric Rees