



**(S)piritual Gifts (H)eart (A)bilities (P)ersonality (E)xperience**

- Experiences inform our \_\_\_\_\_.

*You shall observe this rite as a perpetual ordinance for you and your children. When you come to the land that the LORD will give you, as he has promised, you shall keep this observance. And when your children ask you, "What do you mean by this observance?" you shall say, "It is the passover sacrifice to the LORD, for he passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt, when he struck down the Egyptians but spared our houses." And the people bowed down and worshiped.* Exodus 12:24–27 (NRSV)

- There are opportunities for \_\_\_\_\_ in our experiences.
- We often mistakenly rationalize God as the \_\_\_\_\_ of our valley experiences.

*"I called to the LORD out of my distress, and he answered me; out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice. You cast me into the deep, into the heart of the seas, and the flood surrounded me; all your waves and your billows passed over me. Then I said, 'I am driven away from your sight; how shall I look again upon your holy temple?' The waters closed in over me; the deep surrounded me; weeds were wrapped around my head at the roots of the mountains. I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever; yet you brought up my life from the Pit, O LORD my God. As my life was ebbing away, I remembered the LORD; and my prayer came to you, into your holy temple. Those who worship vain idols forsake their true loyalty. But I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay. Deliverance belongs to the LORD!"* Jonah 2:2–9 (NRSV)

- Experiences, both good and bad, disclose our relationship with God's \_\_\_\_\_.

*The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his*

*hip. Therefore, to this day the Israelites do not eat the thigh muscle that is on the hip socket, because he struck Jacob on the hip socket at the thigh muscle.* Genesis 32:22–32 (NRSV)

- Experience is a mark of our \_\_\_\_\_ with God.
- With experience comes \_\_\_\_\_, a change of mind or purpose.

### **What do our experiences reveal about ourselves?**

- We are a people with “restless hearts” after God.

*That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked at and our hands have touched—this we proclaim concerning the Word of life. The life appeared; we have seen it and testify to it, and we proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and has appeared to us. We proclaim to you what we have seen and heard, so that you also may have fellowship with us. And our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son, Jesus Christ. We write this to make our joy complete. This is the message we have heard from him and declare to you: God is light; in him there is no darkness at all. If we claim to have fellowship with him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.* 1 John 1:1–7 (NIV)

- Experience can impact others when it \_\_\_\_\_ to our common faith.

### **What do our experiences reveal about God?**

- God inhabits \_\_\_\_\_ with us.
- A thriving experience is one in which God is forever \_\_\_\_\_.



#### Restitution in Action:

- Good parents teach and model this principle to their children
- In a court of law the judge may order a thief to pay back stolen money, or replace a stolen object.

Moses taught the Israelites:

*Any man or woman who wrongs another in any way and so is unfaithful to the LORD is guilty and must confess the sin they have committed. They must make full restitution for the wrong they have done...*

Numbers 5:6-7 (NIV)

#### **The Purpose of Restitution is**

**to \_\_\_\_\_ the person you wronged \_\_\_\_\_.**

Example: The story of Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10)

*Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."* Luke 19:8 (NIV)

- In the sphere of relationships, our desire for restitution is almost always rooted in our \_\_\_\_\_.

*for what I have done?"*

*Is there anything I can do to make up*