



Part 1 · WE ARE CREATED WITH PURPOSE

Ephesians 2:10 For we are God's own handiwork (His workmanship), recreated in Christ Jesus and born anew, that we may do those good works which God predestined (planned beforehand, prepared ahead of time) for us, that we should walk in them, living the good life which He prearranged and made ready for us to live.

CREATED TO BE SIGNIFICANT

We are designed to make a significant contribution in life AND in the Kingdom of God. God created all of us in multiple ways to accomplish His will through us and in this way experience true personal fulfillment. Here are three ways that reveal how He created us.

1. Our SPIRITUAL GIFTS tell us WHAT we do best in the Kingdom of God. They are spiritual abilities and activities given by the Holy Spirit which give us tremendous joy and enhance the Body of Christ.
 - A. The Spiritual Gifts survey will identify 4 or more Spiritual Gifts that we currently use.
2. Our PERSONAL STYLE of ministry or temperament tells us HOW we can serve with confidence. This is our own unique personality. Knowing our personality or temperament will help us to understand what kind of work environment is best for us. As well, it will help us to know how to work with different personalities.
 - A. There are many personality surveys available such as the Biblical DiSC survey and Myers-Briggs profile. In this course we will take an abbreviated Myers-Briggs personality survey.
3. Our PASSION tells us WHERE we can best focus our energy or motivation. It is the area in which we have a strong desire to make a significant impact.
 - A. We will wrestle with questions such as, what would I do if I knew I couldn't fail and that all the necessary resources would be available?



A BRIEF LOOK AT PURPOSE

1. The natural habitat of a fish is in the water. If you remove a fish from their environment they are “a fish out of water” and will certainly die. In the same way, if we do not ultimately find the environment for which we have been created we will, in a sense, die to God’s purpose for our lives.
2. **Motion without movement** — Many have never been taught or encouraged to take the time to discover their Divine purpose for life. Therefore life is a random experiment, filled with motion but not necessarily movement towards God’s purpose or destiny. Life ends up being a hit and miss journey resulting in frustration, disappointment, and failure.
 - A. Proverbs 29:18 *Where there is no vision (no revelation of God and His word), the people are unrestrained; but happy and blessed is he who keeps the law (of God).*
3. **There are two great days in a person’s life**, the day they were born and the day they discover why. It’s when we discover why they were born that a life of purpose begins.
 - A. Discovering why is only a part of the process. To follow through we must overcome certain, personal obstacles which seem to be based on being self-conscious rather than God conscious.
 - Inadequate and insecure feelings about our abilities.
 - Fearful to risk and a fear of failure.
 - Not motivated.
 - A worldly focus.
 - A deep desire for the approval of others.
 - Not knowing where to begin.
 - What challenges have *you* faced that seemed to have halted you in the past?
 - B. Because of these challenges people choose to take an easier road and never make an effort to stretch their faith in order to fulfill God’s purpose for their lives. A change in paradigm is required...
 - “I’d *like* to do that,” must become, “I’m *going* to do that and do whatever is necessary to see that become a reality in my life!” **Everything is halted until we have victory over this.**
 - C. God spoke through the prophet Habakkuk and told him to write down the vision the Holy Spirit had given (something still for today but seldom done).
 - Habakkuk 2:2-3 *Then the LORD answered me and said, “Record (write) the vision and inscribe it on tablets, that the one who reads it may run. For the vision is yet for the appointed time; it hastens toward the goal and it will not fail. Though it tarries, wait for it; for it will certainly come, it will not delay...*
 - By the end of this course we will have the opportunity to do just that: write an abbreviated version of our purpose statement in light of who we are.

4. **Understand that God does everything with a purpose in mind.** (Romans 8:28)
 - A. Even when Israel was in captivity God moved on the prophet Jeremiah to give these great words in 29:11 *For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the Lord, thoughts of peace and not of evil, to give you a future and a hope.* (Genesis 1:26-27)
5. **God began with a purpose in mind and created YOU!** (Jeremiah 1:5)
 - A. We are created in the image of God Himself.
 - Genesis 1:26-28 *Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."*
 - B. We have been "skillfully made!"
 - Psalms 139:13-18 *For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; marvelous are Your works, and that my soul knows very well. My frame was not hidden from You, when I was made in secret, and skillfully wrought (an embroidery) in the lowest parts of the earth...*
 - God has a detailed map of your life journey but it is not a guarantee of things to come unless you partner with Him in seeing His purposes lived out through you!
 - C. We are God's unique workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do great things. (Ephesians 2:10)
6. **You cannot find your Divine purpose apart from a personal relationship with your Creator!**
 - A. John 6:68 Simon Peter answered Him, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life."
7. **Purpose is not initially known or obvious, except to God.** The people in the Bible whom God used experienced an unveiling of their purpose over time. Here are a few examples...
 - A. God created Adam and Eve with a Divine purpose and mandate.
 - Genesis 1:28 *Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it.*
 - B. God touched Abraham, a pagan from Mesopotamia, because He saw a way to bless the families of the world through him.
 - Genesis 12:2-3...*and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you.*
 - C. In spite of great challenges, Joseph was given a Divine purpose to protect and prosper God's people.
 - Genesis 37:1-11, 50:19-21 *You intended to harm me, but God intended it for good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.*

- D. God touched Moses, a fearful, stuttering failure, because He saw in Moses a deliverer of His people.
 - Exodus 3:7-10 *So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.*
- E. God chose a terrified Joshua to conquer and possess Canaan and to bring God's people into the Promised Land of Israel.
 - Joshua 1:1-9 *Now then, you and all these people, get ready to cross the Jordan River into the land I am about to give to them - to the Israelites.*
- F. God touched David, a willing shepherd boy, because He saw one of the world's greatest kings and a forerunner of the Messiah, Jesus, the Son of David.
 - Psalm 78:70-71 *He chose David his servant and took him from the sheep pens; from tending the sheep he brought him to be the shepherd of his people Jacob, of Israel his inheritance.*
- G. God touched Gideon, a cowering thresher of wheat, and called him a mighty man of courage and a great deliverer for God's people.
 - Judges 6:14 *The LORD turned to him and said, "Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?"*
- H. God gave Jeremiah his Divine call and purpose in the womb.
 - Jeremiah 1:4-5 *...before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.*
- I. God called and empowered ordinary people like Peter and the disciples to spread the Gospel.
 - Matthew 4:18-22 *...Then He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."*
- J. God chose Paul, a persecutor of His people, to be one to bring the Gospel outside of Israel.
 - Acts 9:15-16 *This man is my chosen instrument to carry my name before the Gentiles and their kings...*
- K. And YOU! We, too, discover our purpose when we entrust our life to our Creator. As we conquer our fears, God uses us in ways we never imagined possible!
 - Ephesians 3:20-21 *For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them...*

THE FOUNDATION OF SERVANTHOOD

1. Success in God's Kingdom is not based on our ability, talents or strength but on servanthood empowered by the Holy Spirit. (Zechariah 4:6)
 - A. John 13:1-17 *...So when He had washed their feet, taken His garments, and sat down again, He said to them, "Do you know what I have done to you? You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord*





and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them. (Matthew 20:25-28; Philippians 2:5-11)

2. We are all called to serve others through God's love.
 - A. Galatians 5:13 *For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.*
3. Serving one another is actually serving God.
 - A. Colossians 3:23-24 *And whatever you do, do it heartily, as to the Lord and not to men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the reward of the inheritance; for you serve the Lord Christ.*
4. Serving is an act of obedience and worship.
 - A. Matthew 4:10 *You shall worship the Lord your God, and Him only you shall serve.*
 - B. Romans 12:1 *Present your bodies as a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship.*

Part 2 • OUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1 Corinthians 12:7 *Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.*

DEFINITION

1. Our Spiritual Gifts reveal WHAT we do best in God's Kingdom.
2. Spiritual gifts are unique abilities given by the Holy Spirit to every believer according to God's design and purpose for the building up of the body of Christ.
 - A. Spiritual Gifts are not to and for us as they are abilities to benefit others. Some tend to boast that they are blessed with certain Spiritual Gifts. However, the gifts are never intended to be FOR us but to be used in the context of the needs of others.

EACH ONE OF US IS UNIQUE "Being the only one of its kind; unlike anything else."

1. Just like your fingerprint, everyone of us is a unique, "one of a kind," creation to experience a meaningful place of service in the Church.

- A. Romans 12:4-8 *For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another...*
- B. 1 Corinthians 12:4-12 *There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:... But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.*
- C. 1 Corinthians 12:12 *The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ.*

2. You are a key person!

My kxyboard works grxat, xxcxpt for onx kxy. You would think that with all thx othxr kxys functioning proprly, onx kxy not working would hardly bx noticxd; but just onx kxy out of whack sxxms to ruin thx xntirx xffort! You may say to yoursxlf, "I'm only onx pxrson. No onx will noticx if I'm involvxd or not, or whxthxr or not I do my bxst." But it doxs makx a diffxrxncx! To bx xffctivx as a church, vxryonx nxxds to bx activxly participating. Xvxryonx nxxds to bx an activx mxmbxr of thx Body of Christ. So, thx nxxt timx you think that you arx not important or nxxdxd, rxmxmbxr my old kxyboard. **You arx a kxy pxrson!**



CHARACTERISTICS OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

- 1. We are to be aware of our gifts and learn to use them as God provides the opportunities.
 - A. 1 Corinthians 12:1 *Now about spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be ignorant (uninformed).*
- 2. In the original Greek the word for "gift," as used in the context of a Spiritual Gift, is "charis" or "charisma." It is an ability that, when used by the Holy Spirit, brings joy and results in devotion to God and a love for others in the Body of Christ.
 - A. 1 Corinthians 12:4-6 *There are different kinds of gifts (charis), but the same Spirit distributes them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.*
- 3. The Body of Christ is diverse and made up of a vast array of people functioning in many different ways and gifts.
 - A. Romans 12:4-5 *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.*
- 4. Spiritual Gifts are distributed by the Holy Spirit to every believer for meaningful service.

- A. 1 Corinthians 12:11, 18 *All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.*
- 5. We will be held accountable for whether or not we use them in obedience to the Holy Spirit.
 - A. Matthew 25:14-30 *...His master replied, "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!"* (1 Corinthians 4:2, 1 Peter 4:10)
- 6. Spiritual Gifts are given for the building up of the body of Christ by empowering members to serve one another.
 - A. Ephesians 4:11-16 *...From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.*
- 7. Through the use of Spiritual Gifts, God's love flows through ME to others! (If I have been given the spiritual gift/ability of healing I need to find people needing healing)

THREE WAYS SPIRITUAL GIFTS ARE EXPRESSED

1 Corinthians 12:4-7 *There are different kinds (great variety) of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men...*

- 1. Gifts (Charisma) - The basic spiritual drive God places in us to enrich His Church.
- 2. Service (Diakoneo) - The opportunities which are open to us to exercise of our basic motivation.
 - A. This is the word from which we get the word "deacon" or servant and literally means to be an attendant, to wait upon menially or as a host. (Matthew 20:28)
 - B. Matthew 20:28 *"...just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve (diakoneo), and to give his life as a ransom for many."* (Mark 10:45 John 13:1-17)
- 3. Working (Energema) - The effect in the lives of those to whom we minister as directed by the Holy Spirit.
 - A. This is where we get the word energy or energetic.
- 4. The primary New Testament passages dealing with Spiritual Gifts are found in:
 - A. Romans 12:3-8 — These are typically called the believer's motivational gifts given by the Father that represent what God does in believers after salvation to shape their perspective on life and motivate their words and actions.
 - B. 1 Corinthians 12:4-11; 1 Peter 4:9 — These are *spiritual abilities that* reveal how God works through a believer in a given situation to demonstrate His supernatural power.
 - God also gave several abilities in the Old Testament that qualify as Spiritual

- C. Ephesians 4:11-13 — These are the office gifts, given by Jesus to build up the Church. Ministry gifts are often confirmed by ordination.
- The Apostle Paul told Timothy in 1 Timothy 4:14, *Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.*

THE STEWARDSHIP OF OUR GIFTS

1 Peter 4:10 *Each one should use whatever gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.*

1. Ways we can abuse the understanding and use of our spiritual gifts...
 - A. Doubting the importance of our spiritual gift so that we suppress its expression.
 - B. Viewing our gift as "special."
 - 1 Corinthians 12:12-26 *...But God has put the body together, giving greater honor to the parts that lacked it,²⁵ so that there should be no division in the body, but that its parts should have equal concern for each other...*
 - C. Projecting our spiritual gift upon others, expecting them to serve as effectively as we do with similar results.
 - D. Not serving others but using our spiritual gift for personal satisfaction.
 - Our spiritual gifts are not *for us* but are to be used by the Holy Spirit *through* us as He sees necessary.
 - E. Not allowing the Holy Spirit to use us outside of our spiritual gifts.
 - Our spiritual gifts are a starting point for service. At times God may use us in ways not necessarily in line with our spiritual gifts. In this way we learn to trust Him more.
2. Developing our spiritual gifts is done *primarily* in the context of people serving one another.
 - A. Read Ephesians 1 and 2 and count the number of "togethers."

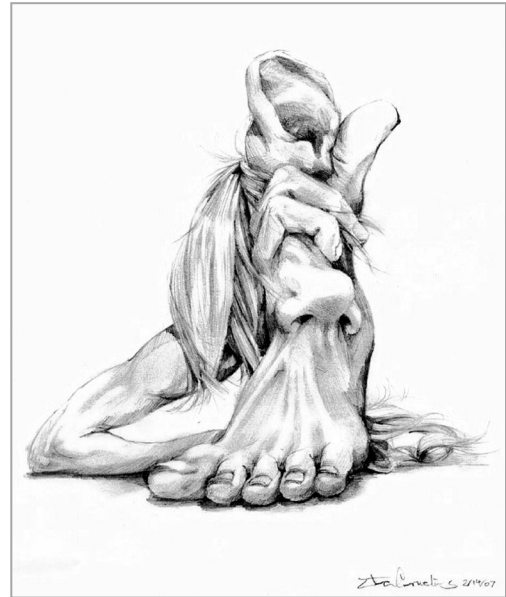
GETTING STARTED

1. What can we do to develop our Spiritual Gifts?
 - A. Start small. (Zechariah 4:10; Matthew 13:31-32)
 - B. Once we discover our spiritual gifts, use them as God provides the opportunities. Become a contributing member of the Christian Life Center. In doing this you'll experience growth in your relationship with God and see visible fruit in your life. (John 15:16)
 - C. Be confident in God's ability to empower you and to accomplish His will in your life.
 - D. Do not view ministry as a stepping stone to "greater ministry." God will move you on as He sees the need. (Matthew 25:21)

- E. Appreciate proven ministry and learn from them. (2 Timothy 2:2)
- F. Give yourself and the ministry time. (Galatians 4:4, 1 Timothy 2:6)
- G. Live the “Be-Attitudes: be wholehearted, be flexible, be teachable, be a team player, be dependable, be a role model. (Ephesians 6:7-8)
- H. Encourage and assist other believers in their spiritual development. Lead by example and guide others into a deeper understanding of what it means to serve Jesus Christ and His people.

WHO’S MISSING?

1. Because the Body of Christ is made up of many members with different gifts, expressions and intensities, the Body of Christ is affected when people are not involved and active (Note the illustration of an “incomplete” body drawn by a friend).
2. How do you think inactivity affects the Church?
3. Even though people may know their spiritual gifts, why do you think some do not express them in service?
4. Are you functioning in your giftedness?
 - A. If not, why not?
 - B. If so, where?
5. How can *you* be a part of the welfare and growth of Christian Life Center? What are the first steps you can take?



ADDENDUM — DEFINITIONS OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Administration — The ability to help determine long range goals and devise plans to see the goals carried out in the Body of Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:28)

Apostle — The ability to be sent into areas with no viable work and to begin one, and then to govern and assume the leadership for churches in a given region. (Ephesians 4:11)

Craftmanship — The divine enablement to facilitate ministry through various creative means and styles. (Exodus 31: 2-11, Acts 9: 36-39)

Creative Communication — The divine ability to communicate God's truth through a variety of art forms. (1 Chronicles 25:1-7)

Deliverance — The ability to cast out demons and evil spirits. (Acts 8:5-8)

Discernment — The ability to know with assurance whether a behavior said to be of God is in fact of God or of flesh or of satanic origin. (1 Corinthians 12:10)

Encouragement — The ability to speak words of comfort, consolation, encouragement and counsel to people in such a way as to strengthen and help. (Romans 12:8)

Evangelism — The ability to share the gospel with people readily and naturally and seeing people respond to the message. (Ephesians 4:11)

Faith — The ability to discern with extra-ordinary confidence to the will and purposes of God for the future of His work. (1 Corinthians 12:9)

Giving — The ability to contribute material resources to the work of the Lord with liberality and cheerfulness. (Romans 12:8)

Healing — The ability to pray the sick or injured and see them healed. (1 Corinthians 12:9)

Helps — The ability to invest time and talents into another ministry to increase another ministries effectiveness. (1 Corinthians 12:28)

Hospitality — The ability to provide food and shelter to anyone in need. (1 Peter 4:9-10)

Intercession — The ability to pray for extended periods of time on a regular basis to see specific answers to prayer. (Colossians 4:12)

Interpretation of tongues — The ability to interpret utterances in tongues given in a public gathering.
(1 Corinthians 12:10)

Knowledge — The ability to receive and communicate specific facts relating to people and situations.
(1 Corinthians 12:8)

Leadership — The ability to set goals, communicate them to others and then place people in areas best suited to accomplish these goals. (Romans 12:8)

Mercy — The ability to feel sympathy and compassion to individuals suffering and then to translate to those feeling to cheerfully done deeds of service. (Romans 12:8)

Miracles — The ability to serve as human intermediaries of God to perform powerful acts that alter the ordinary course of nature. (1 Corinthians 12:10, 28)

Missionary — The ability to minister to people of another culture and even adapt to that culture for the ministry of the gospel. (Acts 13:2-3, Romans 10:15)

Pastor/Shepherding — The ability to assume a long term personal responsibility for the spiritual welfare of a group of people. (Ephesians 4:11)

Prophecy — The ability to receive and communicate a message from God to His people. (Romans 12:6, Ephesians 4:11)

Service — The ability to recognize and resolve needs in a task related to God's work. (Romans 12:7)

Teaching — The ability to clearly communicate information relevant to the health and ministry to the Body and its members. (Ephesians 4:11)

Tongues — The ability to speak in a language not known by the speaker. This is done in the context of a public gathering. (1 Corinthians 12:10, 28)

Wisdom — The ability to receive and communicate God given insight to specific needs arising in the Body of Christ. (1 Corinthians 12:8)

SPIRITUAL GIFTS SURVEY

Instructions

1. Use the Response Sheet at the end. It is best to print a copy and use that to record your answers.
 2. Respond to each definition in the survey with ONE of the numbers below. Answer each one honestly, *as you are today*, not what you think you should be.
3 - Consistently, definitely true;
2 - Most of the time, usually true;
1 - Some of the time, once in while;
0 - Not at all, never.
 3. Then total the numbers in each column going down (Column "A," column "B," etc.) and record your results on page 18.
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1. I enjoy learning about management issues and how organizations function.
2. I want to share the gospel in areas or countries that have not yet received the message.
3. I am able to perceive what a person is really wanting to communicate by what they are saying or not saying.
4. I feel fulfilled when I have been able to fashion/create some thing that helped one of the church's ministries.
5. In conversations with others, they often say to me, "I have never thought about it that way".
6. My first impressions of people are accurate.
7. I have had positive responses to confronting people who were wandering from the truth.
8. I seek out unbelievers with the desire to present the message of Christ.
9. I am confident that even in difficult times I can accomplish great things for God.
10. I enjoy giving what resources I have to those in need.
11. I have prayed for someone who was seriously ill, and they were healed.
12. I like to work behind the scene so that others can better use their gifts.
13. I use my home as a place to minister to people in need.

14. I have heard someone speak in tongues and was able to interpret their message to the group, without ever having learned the language.
15. I enjoy studying the Bible in such a way as to be able to clarify its truth for others.
16. I will accept responsibility for a group when it does not have any direction or leadership.
17. I am able to empathize with suffering people and involve myself in their healing process.
18. God was honored and glorified when He used me to make the impossible happen.
19. I speak the truth of God's Word even when it is unpopular and difficult for others to accept.
20. It is important for me to know and be well known by those I serve and guide.
21. I can communicate difficult Biblical concepts so that people become motivated to learn and study them more.
22. I have been used by God to communicate the gospel in a language unknown to me.
23. I am able to see and verbalize the consequences of a person's actions before most people.
24. Once I know the goal, I like to develop a plan or strategy to meet it.
25. I have a pioneering or entrepreneur spirit and like to do what others have not.
26. People tell me that I am a patient and good listener.
27. I can visualize through my mind's eye how something is to be constructed before I build it.
28. I like the challenge of communicating with others so that there is variety and creativity.
29. I can perceive the genuineness of a person's motives.
30. I gravitate toward those who are confused or troubled in order to encourage them.
31. I look for different ways to effectively share my faith.
32. Even when things seem impossible, I trust God for His provision.
33. I want to see significant things happen for God's glory so that I can give more than tithe.
34. I feel one of my contributions to the body is to pray for the sick.
35. I feel there is spiritual significance in the routine tasks I do for the ministries in the church.
36. I enjoy meeting new people and helping them to get acquainted with others in the church.

37. I have enjoyed interpreting for the body a message given in tongues.
38. I regularly research topics and read books to gain a better understanding.
39. I am able to organize those in the body to achieve specific goals to accomplish God's plan.
40. I enjoy ministering to people in hospitals, prisons, and rest homes.
41. I have been used by God to do supernatural acts which authenticated the message of Christ.
42. I am compelled to expose sin in the church or an individual's life in order to have them walk consistently in the truth.
43. I like to nurture others in their development as a child of God, being patient but firm in their growth.
44. I enjoy studying the Bible in order to share practical insights that will enable others to grow and act in obedience.
45. During public prayer, I speak in a language I do not understand, and it strengthens me in order to edify and love others.
46. I feel I have "common sense."
47. When I think about an event, I am able to see it clearly so that potential problems are solved before they happen.
48. Serving in another culture excites me.
49. I have a deep longing to help people lead a whole and balanced life-style.
50. I am handy and good when working with my hands.
51. I enjoy developing my skills in the arts: music, crafts, drama, photography, etc.
52. Others come to me to clarify a teaching or a situation's rightness or wrongness.
53. I gently, but firmly, challenge others to live a life of greater obedience.
54. When I share the gospel, people desire to know more about a relationship with Jesus Christ.
55. I am able to pray knowing that God hears and will answer my prayers.
56. I am fulfilled in sharing my money and possessions without expecting anything in return.
57. People seek me out to pray for their physical healing.
58. I am most fulfilled when I am able to serve in an area of need.

59. I spend time with visitors in order to make them feel comfortable and cared for.
60. I have been affirmed by others that God has used me to interpret His timely message, given by someone else, through their gift of tongues.
61. I have found myself in situations where I intuitively knew something that helped minister to someone.
62. I am able to guide others in achieving a goal and do it in such a way that they feel "led in the Spirit" in a God-glorifying task.
63. I look beyond a person's deformities and their lingering problems to see a life that matters to God.
64. People have become Christians because of the gospel and the miracles God did through me.
65. I speak very forcefully to groups or individuals about obeying God's commands and teachings.
66. I prefer long-term, stable relationships in which I can model servant leadership.
67. I organize Biblical materials and give systematic presentations which are appreciated by others.
68. I have spoken in a language unknown to me that, when interpreted, brought God's blessing.
69. People seek my advice about matters that confuse them.
70. I can organize ideas, people and events.
71. I am, or desire to be, actively involved in the church's home and foreign mission program.
72. I have given practical guidance to others which led to the healing of broken relationships.
73. I can form or adapt materials to best meet a need.
74. I need to regularly get alone to reflect and use my imagination.
75. In spiritual matters, I am able to distinguish between truth and error.
76. I reassureencourage those who need to take some courageous steps in their faith, family, or life.
77. I am so concerned for the lost that I feel constantly motivated to invite people to receive Christ.
78. I see great things for the cause of Christ and take action, even without the visible means to accomplish the task.

79. I am a good manager of money so I can support ministries that further the cause of Christ.
80. I have seen God answer my prayer for a miraculous healing on several occasions.
81. I willingly do a variety of odd jobs around the church to practically meet the needs of others.
82. I will spontaneously invite people to my home to minister to them, even though the house may not be totally presentable.
83. Most of the messages in tongues that I've interpreted, have spoken of Jesus' work on the cross.
84. I become deeply troubled when someone has not accurately represented Biblical truth.
85. It seems that many Christians look to me for my thought and actions in determining what to do in their own life.
86. I do what I can to show God's love to those who are suffering "behind the scenes."
87. The power of God has miraculously changed the natural order through my prayers.
88. I apply Biblical principles to popular issues in our culture, causing others to think differently.
89. I enjoy providing general oversight for a few Christians, guiding them in their growth.
90. When I teach others, I feel comfortable responding to questions.
91. I have been able to share in public meetings in a language I never learned.
92. I am respected for my ability to provide concise and appropriate solutions to difficult problems.
93. I am able to handle a lot of details at the same time in order to accomplish a task.
94. I am willing to take a part in starting a new church.
95. People tell me things they have not told others and say that I'm easy to talk to.
96. I enjoy being creative when working with wood, glass, etc.
97. I critique the performances and work of others.
98. I can determine and expose a person's deception or phoniness before others recognize it.
99. I gravitate toward broken people with the desire to see them grow in their faith.
100. My conversations with unbelievers seem to include spiritual matters.

101. Believing prayer works, I spend time with those who regularly pray.
102. I often give anonymously to help meet an individual's or ministry's financial needs.
103. People have been restored to social and relational wholeness as a result of my prayers.
104. I find things that need to be done, and do them, even without being asked.
105. I like to greet, welcome, and create a warm atmosphere for those who attend various functions within the body.
106. When I have interpreted tongues, it has encouraged and edified the body.
107. I love to share with others the insights that I have found in God's Word.
108. I can adjust my leadership to motivate a wide variety of people in the church to work together in order to meet a goal or accomplish the task at hand.
109. I understand the emotional and spiritual swings of those going through painful experiences, and I patiently support them.
110. I have been told that visible miracles have resulted from my prayers.
111. When I clearly communicate the truths of God, people are inspired to personally apply them.
112. I have a compassionate need to protect wandering believers.
113. Christians have told me that I have helped them to better understand Biblical truth or personal issue so that they are now living differently.
114. I speak to God publicly in an unknown language.
115. God enables me to make practical applications of Biblical truth in a variety of situations.
116. I like to work hard at making ministries more efficient.
117. I like to share the gospel in ways that are culturally clear and sensitive to people's world views.
118. When someone has a spiritual or relational struggle, I care for them in such a way that over time they are able to practically work through their problems.
119. I am able to design and build things that help the church to better care for people.
120. Through my artistic expression, people have been able to recognize a deeper truth about themselves, their relationships, or God.
121. I am a good judge of character.

122. I strengthen those who are wavering in their faith by directing them to God's promises and truth.
 123. I like those that I am around to know that I am a Christian, in the hope that they will ask me about my relationship to Christ.
 124. I am convinced of God's daily presence and move confidently in His power.
 125. I am able to earn large amounts of money for the Lord's work.
 126. God has used me to miraculously heal people without the aid of medicines or treatment.
 127. When I see so many needs in the church, it is hard for me to say "no".
 128. I feel free to open my home to those who need physical or emotional support.
 129. When someone is speaking in tongues, I am able to interpret God's message.
 130. I am concerned with details as I patiently investigate the scriptures.
 131. I usually know where I am going and can influence other Christians in that direction.
 132. I help those who are unsupported and who others think are undeserving.
 133. Supernatural signs have taken place through my faith and prayers.
 134. I stimulate others to use Scriptural principles in their personal/professional and their public/private decisions.
 135. I provide guidance for the whole person, relationally, emotionally, physically, spiritually.
 136. I love to learn and explain the Word in ways that cause people to listen and act accordingly.
 137. When I have publicly spoken in tongues, it has been interpreted.
 138. In the midst of much conflict, I can offer an acceptable and simple plan for resolution.
 139. I see people as gifted and valuable resources to be coordinated for greater effectiveness in the church.
-

Total the numbers in each column of the Response Sheet going down (Column A, column B, etc.) and record your results on the Key to the Response Sheet.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS SURVEY RESPONSE

Respond to each definition in the survey with one of the numbers on the right.

Answer each statement honestly, as you are today

Then total the numbers in each column going down (Column "A," column "B," etc.)

3 - Consistently, definitely true

2 - Most of the time, usually true

1 - Some of the time, once in while

0 - Not at all, never

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 | 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 | 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 | 41 | 42 | 43 | 44 | 45 | 46 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 47 | 48 | 49 | 50 | 51 | 52 | 53 | 54 | 55 | 56 | 57 | 58 | 59 | 60 | 61 | 62 | 63 | 64 | 65 | 66 | 67 | 68 | 69 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 70 | 71 | 72 | 73 | 74 | 75 | 76 | 77 | 78 | 79 | 80 | 81 | 82 | 83 | 84 | 85 | 86 | 87 | 88 | 89 | 90 | 91 | 92 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 93 | 94 | 95 | 96 | 97 | 98 | 99 | 100 | 101 | 102 | 103 | 104 | 105 | 106 | 107 | 108 | 109 | 110 | 111 | 112 | 113 | 114 | 115 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 116 | 117 | 118 | 119 | 120 | 121 | 122 | 123 | 124 | 125 | 126 | 127 | 128 | 129 | 130 | 131 | 132 | 133 | 134 | 135 | 136 | 137 | 138 |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A | B | C | D | E | F | G | H | I | J | K | L | M | N | O | P | Q | R | S | T | U | V | W |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

KEY TO THE RESPONSE SHEET

| | | | |
|----------|------------------------|----------|----------------|
| A | Administration | M | Hospitality |
| B | Apostleship/Missionary | N | Interpretation |
| C | Counseling | O | Knowledge |
| D | Craftsmanship | P | Leadership |
| E | Creative Communication | Q | Mercy |
| F | Discernment | R | Miracles |
| G | Encouragement | S | Prophecy |
| H | Evangelism | T | Shepherding |
| I | Faith | U | Teaching |
| J | Giving | V | Tongues |
| K | Healing | W | Wisdom |
| L | Helps | | |

LIST YOUR TOP FOUR GIFTS

| Letter | Score | Gift |
|--------------|-------|-------|
| 1. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 3. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 4. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| Other | | |
| 1. _____ | _____ | _____ |
| 2. _____ | _____ | _____ |



Part 3 • OUR PASSION

Philippians 1:21 *For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*

DEFINITION

1. Our Passion reveals WHERE we can make a significant impact. Passion is the _____ in serving God.
2. Passion is the God-given desire that compels us to make a difference in a particular area of life or in a ministry.
 - A. Notice the Apostle Paul's passion for the Jewish people in Romans 10:3-4 *For I could wish that I myself were accursed—cut off from Christ—for the sake of my people, my fellow country-men, who are Israelites.*
 - B. Jesus's passion for His Father and the Temple is obvious in John 2:13-22; Matthew 21:12-17. It appears that He cleansed the Temple on two different occasions, once in the beginning of His ministry and once at the end.
 - What was the result of His passionate behavior in Matthew 21:12-17

If you can't figure out your purpose, figure out your passion. For your passion will lead you right into your purpose. (T.D. Jakes)

Always do what you are afraid to do. (Ralph Waldo Emerson)

EVALUATION

Answer the questions as they reflect you today.

1. Do I believe that God has a great plan for my life? ☐ Yes ☐ I've never really thought about it
2. Do I live with passion and a sense of purpose? ☐ Yes ☐ I'm not sure about my purpose
3. Is my vision for my life bigger than myself? ☐ Yes ☐ No
4. Do I seek to make a significant contribution to the world? ☐ Yes ☐ Not sure how

5. Do I understand God's plan, and am I moving in that direction? ☐ Yes ☐ Not yet
6. Am I willing to pay the price to do what it takes? ☐ Yes ☐ No
7. Do others know God's purpose for my life? ☐ Yes ☐ No
8. Do I invest time with people who stretch me? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not yet
9. Do I actively help others discover who they are in God? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Not yet
10. What will people remember me by?

PASSION ASSESSMENT

Go through the following lists and identify areas that bring a deep feeling of concern. Do not answer them in light of what others may want you to say, or what you feel you *should* say, make them yours.

1. People groups that tug at my heart (List several but choose 1 main category)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bereaved | <input type="checkbox"/> Infants | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Needs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Men | <input type="checkbox"/> Teens |
| <input type="checkbox"/> College students | <input type="checkbox"/> Military | <input type="checkbox"/> Unemployed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Divorced | <input type="checkbox"/> Parents | <input type="checkbox"/> Unreached |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elderly | <input type="checkbox"/> Refugees | <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hospitalized | <input type="checkbox"/> Single parents | <input type="checkbox"/> Women |

A. Write down a people group that tugs at your heart that may be not listed...

2. Social issues that ignite me (List several but choose 1 main category)

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abortion | <input type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Literacy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abused children | <input type="checkbox"/> Family/marriage | <input type="checkbox"/> Muslim |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Addictions (drug, alcohol) | <input type="checkbox"/> Health care | <input type="checkbox"/> Oppressed people |
| <input type="checkbox"/> AIDS | <input type="checkbox"/> Hinduism | <input type="checkbox"/> Politics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Buddhism | <input type="checkbox"/> Human trafficking | <input type="checkbox"/> Poverty |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discipleship | <input type="checkbox"/> Hunger | <input type="checkbox"/> Racism |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Economics | <input type="checkbox"/> Injustices | <input type="checkbox"/> Reaching the lost |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Inner city violence | <input type="checkbox"/> Suicide |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elderly | <input type="checkbox"/> International | <input type="checkbox"/> Technology/internet |

A. Write down a social issue that ignites you that may be not listed...

3. **Summarize the information above.** What area would you make the most significant contribution? It helps to identify a general category (children) and a specific category (children in abusive situations).
- A. General
 - B. Specific
4. **Personal qualities and characteristics.** Answer the questions that grab your attention first, then go through the rest.
- A. What do I think are my strongest qualities? Do others close to me agree?
 - B. What are the important and significant things I feel I must do?
 - C. Who is the one person who has made the greatest positive impact on my life? What qualities did they exhibit?
 - D. What do I truly and genuinely care about? What makes me smile or mad?
 - E. What would I do if I knew I couldn't fail and that all the necessary resources would be available? Be specific.
5. Based on the information above, specifically state what you are passionate about. This could point to an area where you can make the most significant contribution.



Part 4 · OUR PERSONAL STYLE

DEFINITION

1. Your personal style of ministry is the way you do ministry, it answers the HOW issue. There is really no right or wrong personal style, just different.
2. The two key elements are how you're energized and organized.
3. Serving in ways inconsistent with your personal style leads to shallow a decreased motivation that seems to drain you, false relationships, and, ultimately, burnout!

PERSONAL STYLE ASSESSMENT

1. Read each statement and circle the number that best describes what you would PREFER to do or be. Then circle the number that leans toward that answer.
2. Do NOT answer according to what you feel is expected by a spouse, family member, church leader or employer. Select the behavior or perspective that would come naturally to you if you knew there were no restrictions or consequences for your answer.
3. WHEN COMPLETED, total your "E" and "O" scores and plot them on the graph provided at the end of the survey. Then draw intersecting vertical and horizontal lines. Place an "X" where the lines intersect each other to identify your position on the graph.

QUESTION 1 - HOW ARE YOU ENERGIZED? (E)

A. I am more comfortable...

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|---|---|---|---|-------------------|
| Doing tasks for people | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Being with people |
|------------------------|---|---|---|---|-------------------|

B. When doing a task, I tend to...

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|------------------------|
| Focus on the goal | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Focus on relationships |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|------------------------|

C. I get more excited about...

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|--------------------|
| Advancing a cause | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Creating community |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|--------------------|

D. I feel I've accomplished something when I've...

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|----------------------|
| Completed a job | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Built a relationship |
|-----------------|---|---|---|---|----------------------|

E. It's more important to start a meeting...

| | | | | | |
|---------|---|---|---|---|--------------------------|
| On time | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | When everyone gets there |
|---------|---|---|---|---|--------------------------|

F. I'm more concerned with...

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----------------------|
| Meeting a deadline | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Maintaining the team |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|----------------------|

G. I place a higher value on...

| | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---------------|
| Action | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Communication |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---------------|

TOTAL NUMBER _____ (Plot this number on the vertical "E" column on the chart)

QUESTION 2 - HOW ARE YOU ORGANIZED? (0)

A. In life, I generally prefer to...

| | | | | | |
|----------------|---|---|---|---|-------------------|
| Be spontaneous | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Follow a set plan |
|----------------|---|---|---|---|-------------------|

B. I prefer to set guidelines that are...

| | | | | | |
|---------|---|---|---|---|----------|
| General | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Specific |
|---------|---|---|---|---|----------|

C. I prefer to...

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|-------------------|
| Leave my options open | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Settle things now |
|-----------------------|---|---|---|---|-------------------|

D. I prefer projects that have...

| | | | | | |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---------|
| Variety | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Routine |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---------|

E. I like to...

| | | | | | |
|----------------|---|---|---|---|-----------------|
| Play it by ear | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Stick to a plan |
|----------------|---|---|---|---|-----------------|

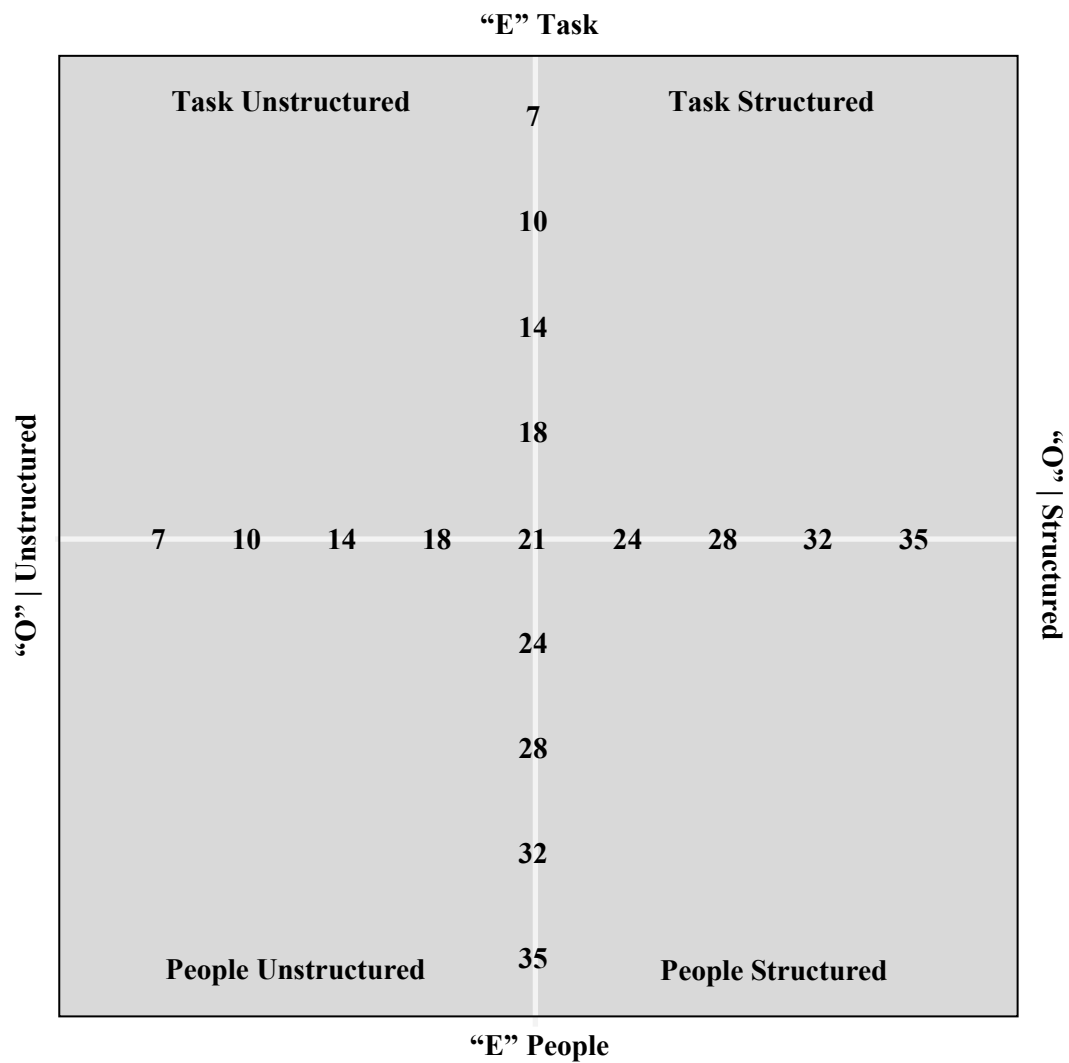
F. I find routine...

| | | | | | |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---------|
| Boring | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | Restful |
|--------|---|---|---|---|---------|

G. I accomplish tasks best...

By working it out as I go 1 2 3 4 By following a plan

TOTAL NUMBER _____ (Plot this number on the horizontal “O” line of the chart)



THREE TYPES OF SERVICE

1. Organizational, on going and long term — These ministries meet regularly and are organized to meet ongoing needs within the body. It is an “iron sharpens iron” experience (Proverbs 27:17) and develops meaningful relationships and accountability. Examples are:
2. Projects, short term — These ministries are called together to meet special needs that arise in the Church. Service is rendered until the task is completed, then the ministry team disbands. This type of service develops our gifts and servanthood. Examples are:
3. Promptings, spontaneous — These ministry opportunities are made available to each of us by the prompting of the Holy Spirit. In this context, there is no outward organizational structure. It builds confidence and trust in the Holy Spirit’s leading which will enable us to use our gifts in unexpected ways. Throughout life, there will be unplanned opportunities for you to exercise your gifts and abilities and to be a blessing in areas never planned for! Examples are:



Part 5 • PUTTING IT ALL TOGETHER

Transfer your answers from the Spiritual Gifts Survey, Passion Assessment, Personal Style Assessment and Myers-Briggs results to this page. From this we can get a clearer picture of how we can make a difference in a meaningful place of service which is in line with how God created us.

1. My Top Spiritual Gifts

A. _____

B. _____

C. _____

D. _____

2. My Passion

3. My Personal Style

A. Personal Style Assessment _____

B. Myers-Briggs _____

4. Briefly describe the ideal environment for you based on the information above.



WRITING A LIFE PURPOSE STATEMENT

Habakkuk 2:2

WRITING A LIFE PURPOSE STATEMENT

Habakkuk 2:2-4 *Then the LORD replied: "Write down the revelation and make it plain on tablets so that a herald may run with it. For the revelation awaits an appointed time; it speaks of the end and will not prove false. Though it linger, wait for it; it will certainly come and will not delay."*

FIRST OF ALL...

Discovering and developing a "Life Purpose Statement" requires that we understand three things about ourselves:

1. **Who has God created me to be?** *This is an understanding of your spiritual gifts, passion, personality and natural talents and abilities.*
2. **What do I want to be?** *This is expressed through your strengths, weaknesses and qualities you want to develop.*
3. **What do I want to do?** *These are the significant contributions you want to make in your life, in the world and in the Kingdom of God. It defines the legacy you want to leave.*

PART 1

1. **Define your Passion.** *What is the area of need that is of ultimate importance to you?*

2. **Identify** your four strongest Spiritual Gifts at this time
 - A.
 - B.
 - C.
 - D.

3. **Describe your Personality**

4. **Define your Roles.** *Your life is expressed in terms of the roles you have chosen to fill. Your roles may include: parent, your occupation and position, responsibilities in church, etc. Put them in the order of priority.*

PART 2

1. What do I think are my strongest qualities?
2. What strengths do others say I have?
3. What significant thing do I deeply enjoy doing?
4. Who is the one person who has made the greatest positive impact on my life? Why?
5. What qualities of character do I admire in others?
6. What are the important and significant things I feel I must do?
7. What am I doing today that is bringing me closer to those things?
8. What do I want to be remembered for?

9. If I had unlimited time and resources, and I could not fail, what would I do?

PART 3

1. Based upon the information above, begin to write (and rewrite) a rough draft.
 - A. It must be birthed from a personal, growing relationship with Jesus Christ.
 - B. It must be an inspiration to you.
 - C. It must be bigger than your ability to accomplish without supernatural help of the Holy Spirit.
2. Evaluative questions.
 - A. What Scriptural principles is my purpose statement based on?
 - B. Is it challenging to me? If not why not?
 - C. Does it inspire me? If not why not?
 - D. Do I need the power of the Holy Spirit to accomplish it?

SETTING GOALS

1. Although goals are important, they are not the primary aim in life. Goals are simply a method of accomplishing the important things in our life.
 - A. A goal is a statement of faith about a specific event in the future.
 - B. A goal is measurable by time and performance.
 - C. Goals focus our priorities and force us to plan ahead.
 - D. Make goals realistic, specific and measurable and attach a date to every goal.
 - E. Write down the steps needed to accomplish the goal(s)

- F. Be accountable in accomplishing the goal.
 - G. Reward yourself for the accomplishment.
 - H. Give God the glory!
2. Write three goals, one for your Spiritual Gifts, one for your Passion and one for your personal style of ministry and attach a due date to each of them.

GOAL 1 (Spiritual Gifts)

Due date _____

GOAL 2 (Passion)

Due date _____

GOAL 3 (Personal Style)

Due date _____