

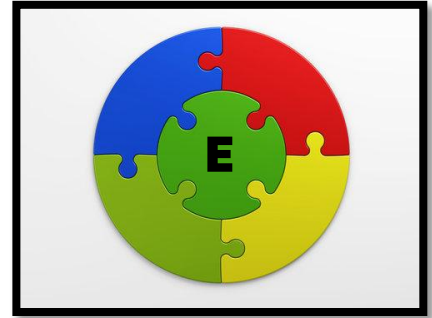
English Transcript

Discover How God Has SHAPED You for Ministry

Lesson 7 – SHAPE Assessment - Personality

Welcome back as we continue with Lesson 7 and the final of the five SHAPE discovery assessments. In this lesson you will be asked to reflect on how God has been working through your Life Experiences to prepare you for ministry.

I will explain the questions in this assessment and then give you time to reflect and write down your responses. This will take more time than the other assessments because it will require qualitative, narrative responses. I believe that this part of the SHAPE assessment may be the most valuable in determining how God may desire to call you into ministry,



All of us have significant life experiences, both good and bad, that help shape who we are today. God desires to redeem all of this for His glory and our transformation.

There are four categories of responses:

1. Your Spiritual Experiences
Meaningful Decisions/Seasons of Your Life
2. Your Life Experiences
Problems, Hurts, Pains or Trials where you learned that you can help others
3. Your Educational and Work Experiences
Favorite Subjects in School/Jobs where you have been most effective
4. Your Ministry Experiences
Places/Positions where you enjoyed serving in the past

I will ask you to pause the audio recording and then you will take as much time as needed to think about each question and your response. This will take some time. There is no need to rush. Keep in mind that God often works through the difficult and challenging seasons in our life to refine us. These trials often provide direction and guidance for us in future ministry opportunities.

For example, God has brought me through the divorce of my parents, death of family members, suicide of family members, long term illness of a child, generational sin dealing with sexual abuse. He has also allowed me to experience more than 25 years working in the secular, corporate environment and he saved me by His grace through faith in Christ at the age of 30 years old. I was introduced to mission work in Senegal at the age of 45 and that has continued now for 22 years. God guided me through transitions from the secular world into pastoral ministry later in life at the age of 47 and then into full-time mission work with GTN at the age of 60. As I consider each of these experiences and many more, each offers insight into how God has been preparing me to serve using the gifts, passions, abilities and personality preferences that can be filtered through my specific life experiences.

Now it is your turn. Take as much time as needed to summarize the story God has been writing and unfolding in your life. When you have completed your responses to the four questions, assign a word or phrase to a few key experiences that have been most impactful in your life.

On page 27, you have a place to record responses on your SHAPE Profile for your top 3 Education/Work Experiences, your top 3 general Life Experiences, and your top 3 Ministry Experiences.

My summarized results were as follows:

Education/Work Experiences: Teaching/Pastor, Process Improvement, Business Management

Life Experiences: Divorce/Trauma. Suicide, Athletics, Life transitions

Ministry Experiences: Prayer, Shepherding, Equipping, Discipleship, Missions, Assimilation

When you have completed this final discovery assessment, restart the audio for a few closing comments and a review of your completed SHAPE Profile on page 27 in your handout.

Welcome Back!

Congratulations! You have completed your SHAPE Assessment, and your SHAPE Profile should now be completed on page 27. I hope you see how this assessment provides you with so much more than just a list of a few spiritual gifts to help guide you into serving opportunities. God has been shaping you and preparing you for ministry. The spiritual gifts are important, but so are your passion areas, natural abilities, personality and life experiences. At the bottom of your SHAPE Profile you may write down how you are be serving today in ways that are leveraging your SHAPE. You may also begin to consider other ways that God may call you to serve in the future.

In the final lesson of this course, we will discuss some next steps for you to serve in the way that God has SHAPED you as well as how you may be able to help others discover how God has SHAPED them for ministry.