

"Examining My Experiences"

What have been your experiences in the following areas:

⇒ **Your Spiritual Experiences**

Meaningful decisions/times with God

⇒ **Your Educational Experiences**

Your favorite subjects in school and lessons in church

⇒ **Your Ministry Experiences**

How have you served in the past

⇒ **Your Painful Experiences**

Problems, hurts, trials that have taught you

RECORD THESE ON YOUR PERSONAL PROFILE

Discovering Your Uniquely God Given



MINISTRY DISCOVERY Handbook

Your ministry will be most effective and fulfilling when you are using your *GIFTS* and *ABILITIES* in the area of *HEART'S DESIRE* in a way that best expresses your *PERSONALITY* and *EXPERIENCE*!

THE PRINCIPLE UNDERGIRDING THIS SERIES

"(God) has given... pastors and teachers to prepare God's people for works of ministry, so the body of Christ may be built up." Eph. 4: 11-12

Each Church member is part of the body of Christ. Just as each part of our physical body has a valuable function to perform for the healthy working of the entire body, so do we in the body of Christ.

MY MINISTRY IS DETERMINED BY MY S.H.A.P.E.!

However, our ministries are not best determined by "filling ministry holes", but by participating in ministry that best fits the unique blend of traits that makes each of us who we are.

What God made us to *BE* determines what He intends for us to *DO*. I will understand the **purpose** I was created for when I understand the kind of **person** I am. This is the secret of knowing God's will for my life!

God is consistent in His plan for each of our lives. He would not give us inborn talents and temperaments, spiritual gifts, and all sorts of life experiences and then not use them! By reviewing and studying these factors, we can discover the ministry He has for us... the *unique* way God intends for us to serve Him.

The two results of discovering the ministry I've been shaped for are:

fruitfulness and fulfillment.

At FCC, we focus on an individual approach to ministry rather than an institutional approach.

We will focus on **Five Personal Factors** that have combined to **shape** the "real" you. By identifying the specific traits you possess in each of these areas, the ministry God has designed you for will become crystal clear!

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT EXPERIENCE

Another, more recognizable term for experience would be:

"And we know that in ALL things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose." Rom. 8:27-28

"Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel" Phil. 1:12

PAUL'S TESTIMONY IN ACTS 22:

- **His _____ Experiences**
Meaningful decisions/times with God
- **His _____ Experiences**
The lessons learned from various studies
- **His _____ Experiences**
Service opportunities in the past
- **His _____ Experiences**
How God worked through problems, hurts, trials

One of the most overlooked factors in determining the ministry God has for me is my past experience, particularly my hurts and problems I've overcome with God's help. Since our greatest life messages come out of our weaknesses, not our strengths, we should pay close attention to what we've learned in the "school of hard knocks".

GOD NEVER WASTES A HURT!

HE WANTS YOU TO BE OPEN TO MINISTERING TO PEOPLE WHO ARE GOING THROUGH WHAT YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN THROUGH!

"(God)... Wonderfully comforts and strengthens us in our hardships and trials. And why does he do this? So when others are troubled, needing our sympathy and encouragement, we can pass on to them the same help and comfort God has given us!" 2 Cor. 1:3-4 (LB)

WHAT TYPE OF TEMPERAMENT DO I HAVE?

The Four Temperaments are the classic approach to identifying personality traits. Read through the list of traits describing each temperament and identify which best describes you.

BEAVER (MELANCHOLY)		LION (CHOLERIC)	
Enjoy instruction	Accurate	Likes authority	Takes charge
Consistent	Controlled	Determined	Confident
Reserved	Predictable	Firm	Enterprising
Practical	Orderly	Competitive	Productive
Factual	Conscientious	Enjoys challenges	Bold
Perfectionist	Discerning	Problem solver	Purposeful
Analytical	Inquisitive	Adventurous	Strong-willed
Precise	Persistent	Independent	Controlling
Scheduled	Sensitive	Persistent	Action-oriented
RETRIEVER (PHLEGMATIC)		OTTER (SANGUINE)	
Sensitive feelings	Loyal	Enthusiastic	Takes risks
Calm, Even-Keeled	Gives in	Visionary	Motivator
Non-demanding	Enjoys routine	Energetic	Very verbal
Non-confrontive	Dislikes change	Promotor	Friendly
Warm, relational	Indecisive	Enjoys popularity	Fun loving
Dry humor	Adaptable	Likes variety	Spontaneous
Thoughtful	Nurturing	Creative	Group-oriented
Patient	Tolerant	Optimistic	Initiator
Good listener	Peace-maker	Infectious laughter	Inspiration

The classic four temperaments have some overlap relationship with Myers-Briggs types. The four temperaments describe how we relate to the world (first and fourth letters of the Myers-Briggs types):

IJ=Melancholic
 IP=Phlegmatic
 EJ=Choleric
 EP=Sanguine

Want more assistance with “plugging in your personality”?

You can complete the **WIRED THAT WAY** personality profile.

RECORD THE RESULTS ON YOUR PERSONAL PROFILE

IDENTIFYING MY UNIQUE S.H.A.P.E.

We've prepared and adapted several tools to help you discover and think through the five factors that make up who you are. You will complete these on your own following the Sunday messages with some helpful guidance from a Ministry Consultant.

UNWRAPPING MY GIFT will give you an overview of spiritual gifts and help you identify which ones you may have been given by God.

MONITORING MY HEARTBEAT will help you clarify what you really love to do.

APPLYING MY ABILITIES will help you appreciate the natural talents and vocational skills you have.

PLUGGING IN MY PERSONALITY will help you see how your God-given temperament can best be used in ministry.

EXAMINING MY EXPERIENCES will help you review your history to discover how God has prepared you for a unique ministry that only you can fulfill.

There are two further tools for those who would like to do some further assessment in the areas of identifying your spiritual gifts and determining your personality style:

- [Spiritual Gifts: A Tool To Discover Your Place In Ministry](#) by Dan Reiland
- [Wired That Way: The Comprehensive Personality Plan](#)

REMEMBER:

1. Have fun! These are not "tests"! There are no right or wrong answers. The purpose is to show how you are a unique blend!
2. Each one is self-evaluating. No one is "rating" you on this. We're interested in your feelings, not others. However, it may be helpful to ask for additional input from those closest to you *after* you've filled in your own responses.
3. The value of each of these tools will vary depending on your age, how long you've been a Christian, your background, your honesty, and how much time and serious thinking you're willing to invest in them!
4. As you complete each tool, transfer your results to the form called "SHAPE For Ministry—My Personal Profile". When complete you can bring this profile with you to your interview with a ministry mentor/consultant.

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

An Overview

"Now about spiritual gifts I do not want you to be ignorant." 1 Cor. 12:1

A SPIRITUAL GIFT: Is a special ability, given by the Holy Spirit to every believer at their conversion, to be used to minister to others and therefore build up the Body of Christ

10 TRUTHS

1. Only _____ have spiritual gifts. 1 Cor. 2:14
2. Every Christian has at least _____ gift. 1 Cor. 7:7
3. No one receives _____ the gifts. 1 Cor. 12:27-30
4. No single gift is given to _____. 1 Cor. 12:29-30
5. You can't _____ a spiritual gift. Eph. 4:7
6. The _____ decides what gifts I get. 1 Cor. 12:11
7. The gifts I'm given are _____. Rom. 11:29
8. I am to _____ the gifts God gives me. 1 Tim. 4:14
9. It's a sin to _____ the gifts God gave me.
1 Cor. 4;1-2 Mt. 25:14-30
10. Using my gifts _____ God and _____ me. John 15:8

THE PURPOSE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

A. NOT FOR MY BENEFIT, BUT _____

*"Each one of you, as a good manager of God's different gifts, must use for the **good of others**, the spiritual gift he has received from God." 1 Peter 4:10 (GN)*

"The Holy Spirit displays God's power through each of us as a means of helping the entire church." 1 Cor. 12:7 (LB)

"Plugging In My Personality"

Although there are many fine (and extremely detailed) personality assessment tools available, for the purpose of your Ministry Profile we want you to utilize two condensed tools.

WHAT TYPE OF PERSONALITY DO I HAVE?

Your personality is a blend of an assortment of traits. The following assessment is an adaptation of the *Myers-Briggs Type Indicator*. Mark where you think you would lay on the continuum of each personality pair.

1. Around others I am more:

_____ | _____
RESERVED **OUTGOING**
Introvert Extrovert

2. I would prefer to work with:

_____ | _____
FACTS/OBJECTS **PEOPLE/POSSIBILITIES**
Sensing Intuition

3. My decisions are based more on:

_____ | _____
LOGIC **VALUES**
Thinking Feeling

4. My use of time is more:

_____ | _____
DETERMINED **SPONTANEOUS**
Judging Perceptive

5. In relationships I tend to be more:

_____ | _____
INDEPENDENT **DEPENDENT**

RECORD YOUR RESPONSES ON YOUR PERSONAL PROFILE

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT PERSONALITY

In the box below, write your name:

Now write your name with your opposite hand:

WHAT HAPPENED? When you did something that was not *natural* ...

1. You felt uncomfortable;
2. It took extra time and effort;
3. You still did a lousy job at it!

*"... love the Lord your God and serve him with all your heart
and with all your soul ..."* (Deut 11:13)

The same things are true when we try to minister in areas that are not suited to our personality. God has wired your temperament in a unique way. This factor is very important in matching you to the right ministry.

BEAVER (MELANCHOLY)

Key character: _____

Keyword: _____

LION (CHOLERIC)

Key character: _____

Keyword: _____

GOLDEN RETRIEVER (PHLEGMATIC)

Key character: _____

Keyword: _____

OTTER (SANGUINE)

Key character: _____

Keyword: _____

It's obvious that God has not used a cookie cutter to stamp out people in a process of uniformity. He loves variety -- just look around! And there is no "right" or "wrong" temperament. We need opposites to balance the church.

B. TO PRODUCE _____ AND _____ IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY

"It was He who gave gifts to men... to build up the Body of Christ so we shall all come together to that oneness in our faith... and become mature... Then we shall no longer be children, carried by the waves and blown about by every shifting wind..." Eph. 4:11, 13-14 (GN)

C. RECOGNIZE THAT I HAVE BOTH A _____ AND A _____ MINISTRY IN MY CHURCH

- My *PRIMARY MINISTRY* commitment should be in the area where I am _____.
- My *SECONDARY MINISTRY* includes serving in any other area of the Body when I am _____.

CAUTIONS ABOUT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. Don't confuse gifts with natural talents.
2. Don't confuse gifts with the Fruit of the Spirit. Gal. 5:22-23
* "Fruit" shows my Maturity.
* "Gifts" show my Ministry.
3. Don't confuse gifts with Christian roles.
4. Be aware of the *"gift projection"* tendency. (Expecting others to serve the way you do and have similar results)
5. Don't feel my gift makes me superior to others. 1 Cor. 12:21
6. Realize that using my gifts without love is worthless!
"I may be able to speak the languages of men and even of angels... I may have the gift of inspired preaching... I may have all knowledge... and all the faith to move mountains -- but if I have not love, I am nothing... it does no good." 1 Cor. 13:1-3 (GN)

HOW TO DISCOVER YOUR GIFT

Get Started!

S _____

Suggested book list:

- ◆ Blackaby, Henry. *What's So Spiritual About Your Gifts*. Multnomah.
- ◆ Gangel, Kenneth. *Unwrap Your Spiritual Gifts*. Victor.
- ◆ Thomas, Robert L. *Understanding Spiritual Gifts*. Kregel.
- ◆ Wagner, C. Peter. *Your Spiritual Gifts Can Help Your Church Grow*. Regal.

T _____

Experiment with different areas of service

A _____

Use the "Spiritual Gifts" Tool

R _____

Ask others what gifts they see in me.

T _____

IT'S EASIER TO DISCOVER YOUR GIFT
THROUGH MINISTRY
THAN TO DISCOVER YOUR MINISTRY
THROUGH YOUR GIFT

THREE WAYS GOD WANTS YOU TO USE YOUR GIFTS

1. Through an Ongoing Ministry
2. Through Short-Term Projects
3. Through Spontaneous Situations

Feeding ability: to create meals for large or small groups

Recall ability: to remember or recall names and faces

Mechanical operating ability: to operate equipment, tools or machinery

Resourceful ability: to search out and find inexpensive materials or resources needed

Welcoming ability: to convey warmth, develop rapport, making others feel comfortable

Composing ability: to write music or lyrics

Landscaping ability: to do gardening and work with plants

Decorating ability: to beautify a setting for a special event

Nurturing ability: to care for those who need special assistance

List any other abilities that you would consider possibilities for yourself?

List your specialized abilities on your **PERSONAL PROFILE**

"Applying Your Abilities"

Look over your list of accomplishments again. Circle all verbs that denote actions performed while you were doing each achievement.

Now compare those verbs to the list below and check those abilities you feel you have.

24 SPECIALIZED ABILITIES

Entertaining ability: to perform, act, dance, speak, do magic

Recruiting ability: to enlist and motivate people to get involved

Interview ability: to discover what others are really like

Researching ability: to read, gather information, collect data

Artistic ability: to conceptualize, picture, draw, paint, photograph, or make renderings

Graphics ability: to lay out, design, create visual displays or banners

Evaluating ability: to analyze data and draw conclusions

Planning ability: to strategize, design and organize programs and events

Managing ability: to supervise people to accomplish a task or event and coordinate the details involved

Counseling ability: to listen, encourage and guide with sensitivity

Teaching ability: to explain, train, demonstrate, tutor

Writing ability: to write articles, letters, books

Editing ability: to proofread or rewrite

Promoting ability: to advertise or promote events and activities

Repairing ability: to fix, restore, maintain

"UNWRAPPING MY GIFTS"

The Bible does not lock us into tight restrictions as to the number of spiritual gifts, or even their definitions. Romans 12:5-8, 1 Cor. 12:1-11, 27-31, and Eph. 4:11-12, 1 Peter 4:9-11 present lists of spiritual gifts but other passages illustrate gifts not included in these lists.

All gifts are given to help the church fulfill its purposes. So we've categorized this list of gifts according to five main ministry areas.

As you read through this list, circle those spiritual gifts that you feel God may have granted you. Cross off the list the spiritual gifts you are sure that you currently do not possess. You can have many gifts.

GIFTS THAT COMMUNICATE GOD'S WORD TO UNBELIEVERS

EVANGELISM (Preaching) Acts 8:5-6, 26-40, 14:21; Eph 4:11-14
the ability to share the good news of Jesus Christ with others in such a way that many non-Christians believe in Christ and are converted to Christianity

MISSIONS 1 Cor 9:19-23; Acts 13:2-3
the ability to adapt to a different culture in order to reach unbelievers and help believers from that culture

APOSTLESHIP 1 Cor 9:19-23, Acts 13:2-3
the ability to start new churches and oversee their development

TONGUES (of men) Acts 2:1-13; 1 Cor 12:10
the ability to speak in a language which you never learned and communicate a divinely anointed message from God to unbelievers

GIFTS THAT EQUIP GOD'S PEOPLE

ENCOURAGEMENT (Exhortation) Rom 12:8; Heb 10:24-25
the ability to motivate God's people to apply and act on Biblical principles, especially when they are discouraged or wavering in their faith; the ability to bring out the best in others and challenge them to develop their potential

PROPHECY Acts 2:37-40, 7:51-53, 26:24-29; 1 Cor 14:1-4
the ability to publicly communicate God's timeless word boldly in an inspired way that declares the timelessness of God's word to current life situations

TEACHING Acts 18:24-28, 20:20-21; 1 Cor 12:28; Eph 4:11-14
the ability to employ a logical, systematic approach to biblical study in order to educate God's people through explaining and applying the Bible in a way that causes them to learn and apply practical truth to their life

WISDOM Acts 6:3, 10; 1 Cor. 2:1, 6-16, 12:8

the ability to understand God's perspective on life situations and apply scriptural truth to a specific situation in order to make the right choices and help others move in the right direction; the ability to explain what to do and how to do it

DISCERNMENT Matt 16:21-23; Acts 5:1-11, 16:16-18; 1 Cor 12:10; 1 John 4:1-6

the ability to distinguish right from wrong, truth from error, and to give an immediate evaluation based on God's Word.; the ability to discern whether the source of an experience is Satan, self, or God's Spirit

KNOWLEDGE Daniel 1:17; Acts 5:1-11; 1 Cor 12:8; Col 2:2-3

the ability to discover, collect, analyze, and organize information that is vital to individual believers or the entire church family; the ability to comprehend a large amount of information and provide it when needed for effective decision-making

GIFTS THAT DEMONSTRATE GOD'S LOVE**SERVICE Acts 6:1-7; Rom 12:7; Gal 6:10; 2 Tim 1:16-18; Tit 3:14**

the ability to recognize unmet needs in the church family, and take the initiative to provide practical assistance quickly, cheerfully, and without a need for recognition

HELPS Mark 15:40-41; Acts 9:36; Rom 16:1-2; 1 Cor 12:28

the ability to work with others and support other Christian's ministry efforts often behind the scenes

MERCY Matt 9:35, 36; Mark 9:41; Luke 10:30-37; 1 Thess 5:14

the ability to detect hurt and empathize with those who are suffering in the church family; the ability to provide compassionate and cheerful support to those experiencing distress, crisis, or pain

HOSPITALITY Acts 16:14-15; Rom 12:13; Heb 13:1-2; 1 Pet 4:9-10

the ability to make others, especially strangers, feel warmly welcomed, accepted, and comfortable in the church family; the ability to coordinate factors that promote fellowship

PASTORING (Shepherding) John 10:1-18; Eph 4:11-14; 1 Tim 3:1-7; 1 Pet 5:1-4

the ability to assume responsibility to care for the spiritual needs of a group of believers and equip them for ministry; the ability to nurture a small group in spiritual growth and assume responsibility for their welfare

GIVING Mark 12:41-44; Rom 12:8; 2 Cor. 8:1-7, 9:2-7

the ability to generously contribute material resources and/or money beyond the 10% tithe so that the Body may grow and be strengthened

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT ABILITIES

"I (God)... have given him skill, ability, and knowledge in all kinds of crafts..." Exodus 31:3

One of the most common excuses people give for not getting involved in ministry is, "I just don't have any abilities to offer." Nothing could be further from the truth. The key is *matching* your abilities with the right ministry!

SOME EXAMPLES OF ABILITIES APPLIED TO MINISTRY:

- **Moses** (Exo 3:1) was a _____
- **Aaron** (Exo 4:14) was a _____
- **Bezalel** (Exo 31:2-5) was a _____
- **David** (1 Sam 16:18) was a _____
- **Tabitha** (Acts 9:36) was a _____
- **Lydia** (Acts 16:14) was a _____
- **Paul** (Acts 22:3) was a _____

FIVE MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT ABILITIES

(Skills and Talents)

1. **MYTH: People aren't born with skills.** There are a number of skills which seem to be inborn and develop very early in infancy. When people say, "He just seems to have a natural talent for it", it's probably true.
2. **MYTH: Skills are learned primarily in the classroom.** Actually some of your most basic skills were learned at home, "in the street", or somewhere outside the classroom.
3. **MYTH: You will be very aware of your abilities.** You're probably using a number of talents or skills that you are not even aware of. You need some process of skill identification.
4. **MYTH: Skills that I use at work are only usable in that environment. I couldn't use them in ministry.** Hopefully, by the end of this class, you'll see the fallacy of that idea. Be creative.
5. **MYTH: Most people only have a few abilities.** The truth is that many national studies have proven that the average person possesses from five hundred to seven hundred different skills.

WHO I LOVE TO SERVE: What age group, interest group, or type of people do you enjoy serving?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Infants | <input type="checkbox"/> Economically disadvantaged |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preschoolers | <input type="checkbox"/> Newly-weds |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elementary age children | <input type="checkbox"/> New believers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Teenagers | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-believers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Young Adults | <input type="checkbox"/> Established Christians |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Couples | <input type="checkbox"/> Students |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Parents | <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Adults | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletes | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-English Speaking | |

WHAT GRABS MY INTEREST: What issues or ministries cause you to be most excited or concerned?

WHAT IS MY MINISTRY DREAM: What dream would you attempt to accomplish for God if you were certain that you couldn't fail?

**DID YOU FIND THE BASIC MOTIVATION OF YOUR HEART?
WRITE IT ON YOUR PERSONAL PROFILE!**

GIFTS THAT ORGANIZE GOD'S PEOPLE FOR ACCOMPLISHMENT

LEADERSHIP Rom 12:8; 1 Tim 3:1-13, 5:17; Heb 13:17

the ability to influence others according to a 'big picture' purpose, mission or plan

ADMINISTRATION Luke 14:28-30; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Cor 12:28

the ability to coordinate people and organize projects

GIFTS THAT CELEBRATE GOD'S PRESENCE

(Worship or prayer-related gifts)

MUSIC Deut 31:22; 1 Sam 16:16; 1 Chron 16:41-42; Psalm 150

the ability to celebrate God's presence through music, either vocal or instrumental, and to led the church family in worship

CRAFTSMANSHIP Exodus 30:22-25, 31:3-11; 2 Chron 34:9-13

the ability to use your hands to benefit the church body through artistic, creative or a wide variety of construction arenas

INTERCESSION Col 1:9-12, 4:12-13; Jam 5:14-16

the ability to pray for the needs of others in the church family over extended periods of time on a regular basis; the ability to persist in prayer and not be discouraged until the answer arrives

HEALING Acts 3:1-10, 9:32-35, 28:7-10; 1 Cor 12:9, 10

the ability to serve as a human intermediary by praying in faith specifically for people who need physical, emotional, or spiritual healing and see God answer; the ability to sense when God is prompting you to pray this kind of prayer

MIRACLES Mark 11:23-24; Acts 9:36-42, 19:11-12; Rom 15:18-19

the ability to pray in faith specifically for God's supernatural intervention into an impossible situation and see God answer; the ability to sense when God is prompting you to pray this kind of prayer

PRAYING IN MY SPIRIT (Tongues of Angels) 1 Cor. 14:13-15

the ability to pray in a language understood only by God or one who is given the gift of interpretation at that time

INTERPRETATION 1 Cor 14:13-15

the ability to interpret "tongues" for the edification of the church body.

For additional help in identifying your spiritual gifts, complete the *Spiritual Gifts* assessment by Dan Reiland.

WRITE YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS ON YOUR PERSONAL PROFILE

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT YOUR HEART

Definition: "HEART"

- a. "The organ that pumps your blood"
- b. "Your emotional constitution or disposition"
- c. "The vital force or driving impulse"

The Bible uses the term "**heart**" to represent the center of your

_____, _____, and _____.

*"Delight yourself in the Lord
and he will give you the desires of your heart."
(Ps. 37:4)*

MY HEART DETERMINES...

Why I _____ the things I do

"The mouth speaks what the heart is full of" Matt. 12:34 (GN)

Why I _____ the way I do

"The Word of God... examines the thoughts and motives of the heart." Heb. 4:12 (Ph)

Why I _____ the way I do

"Guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life." Pr. 4:23

MY HEART IS THE REAL ME!

Physiologically, each of us has a unique heartbeat. Each person has a slightly different pattern. Likewise, God has given each of us a unique emotional "heartbeat" that races when we encounter activities, subjects, or circumstances that interest us. We instinctively feel deeply about some things and not about others.

This God-given motivation serves as an internal guidance system for our lives. It determines what your interests are, and what will bring you the most satisfaction and fulfillment. It also motivates you to pursue certain activities, subjects, and environments.

PERFORM -- I love to be on stage and receive the attention of others. I enjoy being in the limelight.
IMPROVE -- I love to make things better. I enjoy taking something that someone else has designed or started and improve it.
REPAIR -- I love to fix what is broken or change what is out-of-date.
LEAD AND BE IN CHARGE -- I love to lead the way, oversee and supervise. I enjoy determining how things will be done.
PERSEVERE -- I love to see things to completion. I enjoy persisting at something until it is finished.
FOLLOW THE RULES -- I love to operate by policies and procedures. I enjoy meeting the expectations of an organization or boss.
PREVAIL -- I love to fight for what is right and oppose what is wrong. I enjoy overcoming injustice.

I LOVE TO ...

You should be able to support your choice with examples from your achievements. EXAMPLE:

I feel the basic motivation God put in my heart is to "ACQUIRE/ POSSESS": My history demonstrates this:

- I purchased my first car at age 16.
- I've collected a collection of rare stamps.
- I've built up a large cash reserve.
- I've acquired options on three properties.

COMPLETE UP TO YOUR PRESENT:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

The more you can list the better. Get another sheet of paper!

STEP 2: DISCOVER THE DIRECTION OF YOUR HEART

Examine your achievements for a common motivational thread. You might find a key phrase repeated. See if you can match one of the "heartbeats" listed below as samples:

Remember these are ALL God-given motivations. They are only sinful when used selfishly. Every one of these can be used in effective ministry. Don't be embarrassed to identify a basic heartbeat that doesn't seem spiritual! Almost every one of these can be identified in the ministry of one of the twelve Apostles!

DESIGN AND DEVELOP -- I love to make something out of nothing. I enjoy getting something started from scratch.

PIONEER -- I love to test out and try new concepts. I am not afraid to risk failure.

ORGANIZE -- I love to bring order out of chaos. I enjoy organizing something that is already started.

OPERATE/MAINTAIN -- I love to efficiently maintain some thing that is already organized.

TINKER - I love to use my hands and be actively involved in performing a task. I enjoy a sense of accomplishment from completing fairly simple tasks.

SERVE OR HELP -- I love to assist others in their responsibility. I enjoy helping others succeed.

ACQUIRE AND POSSESS -- I love to shop, collect, or obtain things. I enjoy getting the highest quality for the best price.

EXCEL -- I love to be the best and make my team the best. I enjoy setting and attaining the highest standard.

INFLUENCE -- I love to convert people to my way of thinking. I enjoy shaping the attitudes and behaviors of others.

WHY HAS GOD GIVEN EACH PERSON A UNIQUE "HEARTBEAT"?

"God has put it into their hearts to accomplish his purpose..."
Rev. 17:17

God had a purpose in giving you your inborn interests. In fact, your emotional heartbeat reveals a very important key to understanding God's design and intention for your life.

The Bible makes very clear that your heart was designed by God, but you make the choice to use it for good or evil, for selfish purposes or for service.

You may have...

"... selfish ambition in your heart..." James 3:14

Or you may...

"... Serve the Lord with all your heart." 1 Sam. 12:20

"... Do the will of God from your heart." Eph. 6:6

HOW CAN I DO GOD'S WILL AND SERVE GOD'S PURPOSE?

By letting my heartbeat _____ me for *ministry!*

"It is quite true to say that a man who sets his heart on becoming a church leader has a laudable ambition."

1 Tim. 3:1 (Ph)

"Monitoring Your Heartbeat"

If you are like most people, you have never taken time to sort out and identify the things you are good at and motivated to accomplish. As a result, it is unlikely that you use these talents as completely or effectively as you could. The key to understanding your heartbeat is to look at your past accomplishments.

This exercise is adapted from the book Finding A Job You Can Love by Ralph Mattson & Arthur Miller (Nelson, 1982). We highly recommend that you read this book!

STEP 1: LIST AND DESCRIBE YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

"I put on plays for the neighborhood kids with costumes, props, etc. We transformed the shed in the back of our house into a fairyland with lighting effects, decorations and princesses."

"I started a kool-aid stand in the fourth grade and expanded it into three different stands. It was fun and I made money!"

"I had a job as a printer's assistant and developed a method of cutting stereotypes which was faster and more accurate."

"I ran for president and won sometimes when I was in school."

"I have always liked to build things. Before I got married, I completely rebuilt the little apartment I was living in."

"I successfully led protest marches against toxic wastes in my hometown and got local TV coverage."

"I set a goal to read fifteen books over the summer and I did."

What to Include:

- * Accomplishments at home, school, work, etc.;
- * Things you **enjoyed** doing.;
- * Things you believe you **did well**;
- * Give specific details about what you did;
- * Forget what other people think about it.

Remember, you're recalling things you *enjoyed doing* and *did well* (accomplishments), not simply pleasant experiences

BAD EXAMPLE: Had a great vacation in Canada

GOOD: Took some stunning photos during my vacation

You do not have to cover every year of your life. Just focus on what **you feel** are the highlights of things you've done.

MY HIGHLIGHTS OF THINGS I DID WELL AND ENJOYED DOING ...

DURING MY GRADE SCHOOL YEARS

- 1.
- 2.

AS A TEENAGER

- 1.
- 2.

3.

IN COLLEGE OR 20'S

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- .

IN MY "THIRTYSOMETHING" YEARS

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.