

What On Earth Am I Here For? You Were Shaped to Serve Christ

Brad McConaughy // May 17, 2020

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

Big Idea: You Were Shaped to Serve Christ!

*“Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many.” **Matthew 20:28***

1. _____ your identity. “I am a Servant of Jesus Christ.”

*“Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus.” **Philippians 2:5***

2. _____ and _____ your unique God given shape.

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

Spiritual Gifts *What am I gifted to do?*

Heart *What do I love to do?*

Abilities *What skills and natural talents do I have?*

Personality *Where does my personality best suit me to serve?*

Experiences *What spiritual/educational/painful experiences have I had?*

3. _____ Christ by serving others.

A. Be _____

“Two blind men... shouted, ‘Lord, have mercy on us!’ ... Jesus stopped and called them. ‘What do you want Me to do for you?’ He asked.”
Matthew 20:30-32

Barriers that keep us from being available:

- (1) Busyness
- (2) Self-Centeredness
- (3) Materialism
- (4) Comparison

B. Be _____

*“The one thing required of servants is that they be faithful.” **1 Corinthians 4:2***

*“Throw yourselves into the work of the Master, confident that nothing you do for Him is a waste of time or effort.” **1 Corinthians 15:58** (MSG)*

21 minutes with God for 21 days challenge reading schedule:

- 1 Peter 4:1-11
- Matthew 20:17-34
- Philippians 2:1-11
- John 13:1-17, 34-35
- John 17:1-26
- Matthew 25:14-30
- Matthew 25:31-46

Sermon questions

1. Read **Ephesians 2:10**. The words “for us to do” are literally, “in order that we might walk in them.” God has prepared a path of good works for you to do as He works in and through you. What does your “path” look like?
2. Read **Philippians 2:5-8**. Based on these verses, how would you describe the attitude of Christ that we’re to have? How closely does your attitude match that of Jesus described here?

Read **Mark 10:45**. What personal application does the phrase, “to give his life as a ransom for many,” have in your life?

3. Read **Matthew 20:30-32** and **21:1-3**. Since healing these two blind men happened within days of His crucifixion, the upcoming events were likely foremost on Jesus’ mind. Have you ever allowed your schedule to keep you from serving someone the Lord has put in your path? How does Jesus’ example help you recognize opportunities in your daily activities to do what God wants you to do?
4. Read **1 Corinthians 4:1-2**. What does it mean to be a faithful servant of Christ with those closest to you? How does one deal with the selfish pettiness that often gets in the way of serving others?
5. Read **Ephesians 4:12**. What does it mean to “build up” the body of Christ? How do you see yourself doing that?

Read **1 Peter 4:10**. How are you using your God-given gifts to serve others in your life (spouse, children, friends, neighbors)?

6. Read **Matthew 25:14-30**. How were these servants alike and different? How did the master commend the first two?

How do these verses apply to your life as a follower of Jesus looking forward to His return?

7. Pastor Brad talked about the acronym S.H.A.P.E. as a model for considering how we can serve Christ effectively. Thoughtfully answer the following questions:

What do you think your *spiritual gifts* might be?

If you could do something for the Lord what would it be (*Heart*)?

What natural *abilities* do you have?

How would you describe your *personality*?

What *experiences* have you had, both good and bad, that the Lord might use?

Often others see us differently than we see ourselves. Share your answers to these questions with your Life Group. Do they affirm what you wrote? Or, do they give you a different perspective on how God is using you, or might want to use you?

Read the Bible this year

Pastor Brad encouraged us to read the Bible in 2020. Here's some help getting started. Each day this week read from the Old and New Testament. Or, if you prefer, read just from one testament. Enjoy!

- **2 Kings 22-23; John 4**
- **2 Kings 24-25; John 5**
- **1 Chronicles 1-3**
- **1 Chronicles 4-7**
- **1 Chronicles 8-10**
- **1 Chronicles 11-12; John 6**
- **1 Chronicles 13-15; John 7**