

## What Are The Pieces Of Your Puzzle? Looking At The Big Picture

We have been made for a divine purpose. We *could* say that it's to glorify God, or to witness, but God wants us to go deeper in our quest to discover our place within the ministry in the body of Christ. God has a perfect plan for us, not to harm us but to give us an expected end, a life of hope and purpose. Thank God that He's not left us to ourselves.

### ***Know Who You Are:***

1) Not only should we discover what is \_\_\_\_\_ with us (which is beyond the scope of this seminar), we should discover what is \_\_\_\_\_ with us (what this seminar is all about). The first relates to our \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom. 8:7; Steps to Christ, pp. 18, 19), the second relates to our \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom. 5:8; Ministry of Healing, p. 25, 26; Desire of Ages, p. 668).

2) Discovering who you are also involves discerning your divine design (Maranatha, p. 122). This involves delving into your capabilities. Your capabilities are your \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_.

"The ingredients that are seen before conversion are seen after conversion. This is disturbing to people who expect it to be otherwise, but perhaps we will better understand our position in Christ if we see that God's intentions for us is not replacement of who we are, but redemption of who we are. God's creation of us, including our basic motivational pattern, is not bad. Conversion has us rejoicing in the fact that we are enabled to become who we originally were made to be, rather than becoming someone entirely different. The renewal takes place when we are resurrected in conversion and sanctification causes a radical change, not in the gift we have, but in its purpose and use." *Finding A Job You Can Love p. 119*

3) Discovering who you are also involves discerning your \_\_\_\_\_. Your character is the foundation of who you are and your ministry. It qualifies you to minister.

Character involves \_\_\_\_\_ and is a matter of your heart, whereas your design involves \_\_\_\_\_ and is a matter of your gifts, talents and abilities. To be effective in ministry, being must \_\_\_\_\_ doing, because what you do (your ministry) flows out of who you are (your character).

The Bible mentions character qualities that enhance the life of the believer like courage, self-control, \_\_\_\_\_, respect, \_\_\_\_\_, discipline, \_\_\_\_\_, hospitality, \_\_\_\_\_, honesty, \_\_\_\_\_, trustworthiness, and \_\_\_\_\_. (1 Thess. 2:2-8; 1 Tim. 3:1-13, Titus 1:5-9, 1 Cor. 11:1; Gal. 4:19; Eph. 4:13, Gal. 5:16, 22, 23; Counsels to the Church, p. 198; Education, p. 105).

### ***Like Who You Are***

The Bible teaches to “love your neighbor as \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 19:19, Eph. 5:28, 29). This does not mean that one should be self-serving (1 Cor. 13:5) but that we should have \_\_\_\_\_ (Mind, Character & Personality, Chapter 28).

### ***Be Who You Are***

This means being \_\_\_\_\_, and being \_\_\_\_\_ (Matt. 5:16).

*Authenticity* is integrity from core to crust. What you see is what you get. The masks are off and we know and like who we are. The result will be an authentic life that produces an authentic ministry.

*Vulnerability* means sharing Christ’s strengths in the context of our weakness. Only as we truly accept the way God made us can be truly vulnerable and really grow.

\_\_\_\_\_ really does set a person free (John 8:32). And the truth of knowing, liking and being who Christ has designed us to be frees us to become his special people.

### ***Organizational Importance Of Your Design***

When the leaders and the people in a church discover their divine design, the ministry benefits as a whole. New Testament ministry is \_\_\_\_\_ (Mark 6:7; Luke 10:1; Acts 11:22-30). Everyone is valuable. Everyone is needed.

## More Pieces

God's design for us is made up of our spiritual gifts, temperament, passions, leadership role and style, and natural gifts and abilities. Let's understand what each of these mean.

**Spiritual Gifts** - A spiritual gift is a \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Cor. 12: 29-31), God-given (Rom. 12:3, Eph. 4:7-11, 1 Cor. 12:11) \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Pet. 4:10).

We can be \_\_\_\_\_, but no believer has \_\_\_\_\_. A helpful concept to help determine multi-giftedness is your \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.

What are the gifts? Prophecy, Serving, Helping, Teaching, Encouraging, Giving, Leadership, Mercy, Pastor, Apostle, Missionary, Evangelist, Wisdom, Knowledge, Discernment, Healing, Miracles, Faith, Administration, Hospitality, Craftsmanship, Tongues, Interpretations (see Rom. 12, 1 Cor. 12, Eph. 4).

Remember, we have a spiritual responsibility to engage our gifts in the service of God (Matt. 25:14-30; Pastoral Ministry, p. 152-154).

**Passions** – marks the difference between ministry \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 18:25; Rom. 12:11; 15:20; Counsels on Health, p. 35). Passion is a God-given capacity to attach ourselves \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_ (people, cause, idea, area of ministry) for an extended period of time to meet a \_\_\_\_\_.

Passion involves 1) \_\_\_\_\_ which is something we feel strongly and care deeply about; 2) \_\_\_\_\_ which has an object in mind; 3) \_\_\_\_\_ which means it stays with you for an extended period of time; and 4) \_\_\_\_\_, which develops out of strong sense of felt need.

Passion provides \_\_\_\_\_ for ministry and \_\_\_\_\_ to our exercise our gifts. It energizes us. It compels us to take definite \_\_\_\_\_.

**Temperament** – Provides unique personal \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ for ministry.

Temperament is your unique, God-given (inborn) \_\_\_\_\_ that doesn't need cultivation or encouragement.

Knowledge of temperament is important for a variety of reasons:

- 1) We learn a great deal about \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_, and what \_\_\_\_\_ the thoughts, emotions and behaviors.
- 2) It helps to increase ministry \_\_\_\_\_ (Mark 9:35; 10:43; Phil. 2:3-8).
- 3) We must understand that people are \_\_\_\_\_ fundamentally, and that is okay. We all have different wants, needs, motives, desires, goals and values. But be very careful not to mistake a difference in someone else for a flaw. We cannot make people like ourselves. If we try it will be disastrous (Adventist Home, p. 426).

Various models have surfaced over recent years, mostly derived from one or two prototypes, to help individuals discover their temperament:

- a) \_\_\_\_\_ model. He named the four temperaments choleric, sanguine, melancholic, and phlegmatic.
- b) The \_\_\_\_\_ Model developed by William Marston. DiSC is an acronym for the four behavioral temperaments Dominant, Influencing, Steady and Compliant.
- c) Myer-Briggs Type Indicator (\_\_\_\_\_). Most popular today.
- d) Kersey Temperament Sorter (\_\_\_\_\_). This is a shorter version of the MBTI.

**Leadership** – Christian leaders are \_\_\_\_\_ (character) who know where they're \_\_\_\_\_ (direction) and have \_\_\_\_\_ (influence). This involves two primary areas: 1) your leadership \_\_\_\_\_ (if you are a leader), and 2) leadership \_\_\_\_\_ (how you lead).

Discovering leadership role involves discovering whether you are a \_\_\_\_\_ (Rom. 12:8), a \_\_\_\_\_ (1 Cor. 12:28), or a \_\_\_\_\_.

1) *Leaders* have the ability to \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ that comes from the \_\_\_\_\_ and channel it to create needed change in ministry.

*Managers* compliment and work best under leaders by \_\_\_\_\_ with the \_\_\_\_\_ that \_\_\_\_\_ brings.

2) Discovering leadership style involves knowing whether you are \_\_\_\_\_ oriented or \_\_\_\_\_ oriented (style).

*Task behavior* focuses on the \_\_\_\_\_ of one or several goals. Paul's life mission would be an example (Acts 20:24).

*Relational behavior* focuses on how people relate to themselves and others. Paul's ministry to the Thessalonians would be an example (1 Thess. 2:7-12). It responds to the concerns and \_\_\_\_\_ of people.

Effective leadership depends on how the leader \_\_\_\_\_ task and relational behaviors with people in his or her unique ministry context or culture.

***Evangelism*** – Discerning your divine makeup also includes discovering your evangelism style. It is an often ignored, yet important piece of your life's puzzle. We are all \_\_\_\_\_ (Desire of Ages, p. 195)!

Someone suggested that there might be six styles Christians take with them into their witnessing endeavors.

- 1) Confrontational (Acts 2:23)
- 2) Intellectual (Acts 17:2, 3. 16, 17)
- 3) Testimonial (John 9:25)
- 4) Relational (Mark 5:18, 19)
- 5) Invitational (John 4:25, 29, 39)
- 6) Serving (Acts 9:36)

Remember, these styles only serve as a way to \_\_\_\_\_ us to the concept of discovering our natural and personal style.

***Natural Gifts & Talents*** – These are attributes God distributes to \_\_\_\_\_ people regardless of their spiritual \_\_\_\_\_ for the \_\_\_\_\_ of all mankind (Matt. 5:45). They are abilities and capabilities.

“There are different kinds 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. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.” –1 Cor. 12:4-7 (NIV)