



get real!

FINDING YOUR PLACE IN MINISTRY

get real!

what does it mean to get real?

“So here’s what I want you to do, God helping you: Take your everyday, ordinary life—your sleeping, eating, going—to-work, and walking-around life—and place it before God as an offering. Embracing what God does for you is the best thing you can do for him. Don’t become so well-adjusted to your culture that you fit into it without thinking. Instead, fix your attention on God. You’ll be changed from the inside out. Readily recognize what he wants from you, and quickly respond to it. Unlike the culture around you, always dragging you down to its level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you, develops well-formed maturity in you.” Romans 12:1-3 THE MESSAGE

GETTING REAL means accepting who God made me to be and recognizing that God made me for a purpose. Its believing and celebrating that God has special work that He wants me to do and that He has especially equipped me to do it.

“He creates each of us by Christ Jesus to join him in the work He does, the good work he has gotten ready for us to do, work we had better be doing.” Ephesians 2:10 THE MESSAGE

“Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits. All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, to all kinds of people!” I Corinthians 12:7 THE MESSAGE

God’s call on our lives started before we were even born in his heart, consider these words from Jeremiah 1.

4 The word of the LORD came to me, saying,

5 “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.”

God knew me • God formed me • God chose me • God appointed me

When we consider the awesomeness of God’s call we can shrink back in fear as we look at our own estimation of ourselves. Look at Jeremiah’s response to God’s call.

6 “Ah, Sovereign LORD,” I said, “I do not know how to speak; I am only a child.”

And the Lord says to Jeremiah:

7 But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a child.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. 8 Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the LORD.

God knew me • God formed me • God chose me • God appointed me • God empowers me



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how do i get real?

g _____

What am I gifted to do?

"But each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that." (1 Corinthians 7:7 NIV).

e _____

what experiences have I had?

"But as for you, continue in what you have learned and become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it," (II Timothy 3:14 NIV)

t _____

Where does my personality best suit me to serve?

"No one can really know what anyone else is thinking or what he is really like, except that person himself." (1 Corinthians 2:11 Living)

r _____

How do I most comfortably connect with others?

"What we have is one body with many parts, each its proper size and in its proper place." (1 Corinthians 12:20 THE MESSAGE)

e _____

What have I learned that I could share with others?

"Always remember what you have learned. Your education is your life—guard it well!" (Proverbs 4:13 Good News)

a _____

what natural talents and skills do I have?

"and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts--" (Exodus 31:3, NIV).

l _____

What do I love to do?

"for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to his good purpose." (Phil 2:13, NIV).



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finding my spiritual gift



S tudy

-Read books

T rial & error

-Experiment with different areas of service.

A nalyze

-Use a test or inventory

R equest responses from others

-Ask others what gifts they see in you.

T ake training

-Develop yourself in your area of giftedness.

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experience- where i've been what i've done

God uses your personal experience to minister to others, particularly the hurts and problems you've overcome with God's help. List any experiences you feel comfortable sharing that you've had in any of the following areas.

MY SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES Meaningful decisions/times with God

MY SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

Testimony- This is how and when I became a Christian, and what it has meant to me since then.

Times I have felt close to God, and meaningful spiritual experiences that stand out in my mind.



MY PAINFUL EXPERIENCES

•Problems, hurts, trials—that have taught you
These are the kind of trials or problems I could share with someone else and encourage a fellow Christian who is going through the same experience.

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**experience- where i've been
what i've done**

MY MINISTRY EXPERIENCES
and how you felt about the experience.

• How have you served in the past? Write down what you did

Church or Organization:

Whatcha do?

Howdya feel?

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.



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temperament- i've got personality!



In the box below, write your name:

Now write your name with the opposite hand:

WHAT HAPPENED?

When you tried to do something that was not *natural* to you...

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

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.

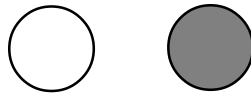
It's obvious that God has not used a cookie cutter to stamp out people in a process of uniformity. He loves variety — just look around! And there is no "right" or "wrong" temperament. We need opposites to give balance in the body of Christ.

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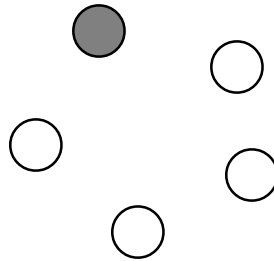
how do i relate?

What is the way it is most comfortable for you to connect with other people? Circle the relational style that represents your most natural style of networking with others.

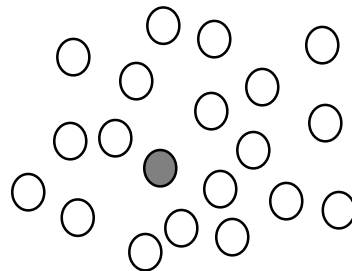
ONE TO ONE



ONE TO FEW



ONE TO MANY



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i've got an education!

Did you ever think that things you've learned in school could be used in the body of Christ? Well, they can. How 'bout some information?

Favorite subjects in school:

What kind of extracurricular activities do you enjoy?

Have you ever taken lessons to learn how to do anything?

Have you ever been to any training camps? (sports, music, speech, etc.)

Do you have any hobbies that you enjoy?



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my abilities

STEP 1: List and describe your accomplishments since childhood

EXAMPLES:

- I put on plays for the neighborhood kids with costumes, props, etc. We made costumes, a stage and wrote the whole play.
- I started a kool-aid stand and got other kids to work with me. Soon we had 3 kool-aid stands in our neighborhood.
- I ran for president of everything and I won sometimes.
- I won a prize at the fair in the dress making competition.
- I read twenty books one summer in junior high.

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.

GUIDELINES:

1. Remember, you're recalling things you enjoyed doing and did well (accomplishments not just pleasant experiences.)
BAD EXAMPLE: Had a great vacation in Canada.
GOOD EXAMPLE: Took some great pictures on my vacation.
2. 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...

MY GRADE SCHOOL YEARS:

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my abilities

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

IN JUNIOR HIGH:



IN HIGH SCHOOL:

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discovering your abilities

Look over your list of accomplishments. 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.

26 SPECIALIZED ABILITIES

- Entertaining ability: to perform, act, dance, speak, magic
- Recruiting ability: to enlist and motivate people to get involved
- Interviewing 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
- 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 or activities
- Repairing ability: to fix, restore, maintain
- 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
- Counting ability: to work with numbers, data or money
- Classifying ability: to systematize and file books, data, records and materials so they can be retrieved easily
- Public Relations ability: to handle complaints and unhappy customers with care and courtesy
- Welcoming ability: to convey warmth, develop rapport, making others feel comfortable
- Composing ability: to write music or lyrics
- Landscaping ability: to do gardening or working with plants, rocks, etc.
- Decorating ability: to beautify a setting for a special event



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what do you like & love?

1. What issues cause a strong emotional stirring in you?

- Environment
- Discipleship
- Violence
- Education
- Economic
- Health care
- Abortion
- Church
- Others:

- Child Care
- AIDS
- Injustice
- Addictions
- Reaching the lost
- Poverty
- Hunger

- Homosexuality
- Politics
- Racism
- International
- Technology
- Family
- Literacy

2. What kind of people do you feel strongly attracted to?

- Infants
- Teen moms
- Homeless
- Disabled

- Others:

- Children
- Kids from Divorced Homes
- Unemployed
- Poor

- Youth
- Refugees
- Elderly
- Hospitalized

Other questions to consider:

- What do I like to work with? People, things or information?

- If you knew you couldn't fail what would you attempt to do for God with your life?



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the real me

g ifts

Spiritual Gifts I believe I have:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

e xperiences

Key Experiences in my life:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

t emperament

Type:
Traits:

r elational style

How do you best network with others? (circle)

- one to one
- one to few
- one to many

e ducation

I've been educated in these main areas:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

a bilities

I feel I have these specialized abilities:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

l ikes & loves

Who and what do I have a passion for?

- 1.
- 2.

How would you state your passion in 3-5 words?





resources

DISCOVERING MY MINISTRY, C.L.A.S.S. 301

Saddleback Valley Community Church, The Encouraging Word, P.O. Box 6080-388, Mission Viejo, CA 92690
714-587-5394

Classbook and cassette tapes are available. The SHAPE concept comes from this material.

NETWORK

Bruce Bugbee • Don Cousins • Bill Hybels - Willow Creek Resources • Zondervan

Class book, leader's guide, video and cassette tapes are available.

WHAT YOU DO BEST IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

Bruce Bugbee • Zondervan

Companion book to NETWORK (above).

SOAR WITH YOUR STRENGTHS

Donald O. Clifton & Paula Nelson • Dell Publishing 1992

A secular book on strengths by the founder of SRI Gallup, one of the nation's foremost consulting firms

LIFEKEYS

Jane A.G. Kise • David Stark • Sandra Krebs Hirsh - Bethany House Publishers • 1996

Developed by three leaders in a local church.

RIGHT FIT

Ronald B. Oertli (Developer of the 2:7 Series). Available through him. (303) 694-9478, E-mail: growgo2@aol.com, or 5400 E. Hinsdale Place, Littleton, CO 80122.

Ron has a number of resources for identifying giftedness in others.

THE STARTER KIT FOR MOBILIZING MINISTRY

Leadership Network • 1-800-765-5323, Cost: \$45.00

A 300-page manual to help churches develop a churchwide lay mobilization system. Excellent resource!

THE NEW REFORMATION

Greg Ogden • Zondervan Publishing • 1990

Why every believer must be mobilized for ministry in the kingdom of God.