

**WELCOME TO
DISCOVERING MY MINISTRY #301**

This class is the third of Open Bible Baptist Church's four basic classes. Since these classes build on each other, you should have already attended *CLASS 101: Discovering My Membership* and *CLASS 202: Discovering Spiritual Maturity* before taking this class. We are convinced that you must first be committed to membership in a church family and committed to the habits for spiritual maturity before you are ready for ministry. Membership and Maturity are the foundation for Ministry.

Opening Questions:

1. How long have you been attending Open Bible?

2. How have you grown as a Christian since arriving at Open Bible?

3. What do you like best about the ministry here?

4. When you help others, what do you do?

THE PURPOSE FOR THIS CLASS:

"(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

The Bible says:

* The Pastors are the _____

* The People are the _____

INTRODUCTION

A. THE PRINCIPLE UNDERGIRDING THIS CLASS:

MY MINISTRY IS DETERMINED BY MY _____!

What God made me to *BE* determines what He intends for me 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:

_____ and _____

B. THE FOCUS OF THIS CLASS

At Open Bible Baptist Church, 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!

C. CLASS OUTLINE

PART 1 MADE FOR MINISTRY

- A. What the Bible Says About Ministry
- B. The Process for Discovering My Ministry
- C. Identifying My Unique S.H.A.P.E.

PART 2: SERVING THROUGH OPEN BIBLE

- A. Open Bible's Vision for Ministry
- B. Previewing the Opportunities ("Ministry Menu")
- C. Developing a Heart to Serve
- D. Where Do I Go From Here?

THREE PHASES TO COMPLETING THIS CLASS

1. Attend CLASS 301
2. Complete your S.H.A.P.E. Personal Profile
3. Meet with a Ministry Guide

D. THE GOALS OF THIS CLASS:

**1. THAT I WILL _____ MY UNIQUE DESIGN
(S.H.A.P.E.) FOR MINISTRY AND COMMIT TO _____
AND _____ MY GOD-GIVEN GIFTS AND ABILITIES
IN SERVING GOD AND OTHERS THROUGH MY CHURCH FAMILY.**

**2. THAT I WILL _____ AND BEGIN
_____ IN THE MINISTRY OF MY CHURCH THAT
BEST _____ WHAT GOD MADE ME TO BE.**

- My Primary Ministry
- My Secondary Ministry

PART 1: Made for Ministry

A. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT MINISTRY

1. WHAT IS MINISTRY?

DEFINITION: (Greek "diakonos" - "to serve")

"Ministry IS USING WHATEVER GOD HAS GIVEN ME TO SERVE HIM AND THE NEEDS OF OTHERS"

We minister in 3 directions

* To _____ (Acts 13:3)

* To _____ (Heb. 6:10)

* To _____ (Matt. 5:13)

2. WE MINISTER TO 3 AREAS OF NEEDS.

* To peoples _____ needs.

"(God says) I was hungry and you fed me, ... thirsty and you gave me a drink... needed clothes and you clothed me... sick and you cared for me... in prison and you visited me... Whenever you have done this to the least person, you did it to me."

Matt. 25:35-

36, 40

"If, as my representative, you give even a cup of cold water to a little child, you will surely be rewarded." Matt. 10:42 (LB)

* To people's _____ needs.

"... Warn the idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with all." 1 Thess. 5:14 (GN)

* To people's _____ needs.

"... God reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation." 2 Cor. 5:18

"We proclaim Christ, counseling and teaching everyone with all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ." Col 1:28, 29

3. THE PURPOSE OF MINISTRY

"There are different kinds of service to God, but it is the same Lord we are serving. The Holy Spirit displays God's power through each of us as a means of helping the entire church. All of you together are the one Body of Christ and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it." 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

GOD WANTS TO USE ME TO _____

4. THE PRIORITY OF MINISTRY (Why should I be interested?)

1. I'VE BEEN _____ FOR MINISTRY

"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do." Eph. 2:10

2. I'VE BEEN _____ FOR MINISTRY!

"It is He who saved us and chose us for his holy work, not because we deserved it but because that was his plan long before the world began..." 2 Tim. 1:9 (LB)
"Saved to Serve!"

3. I'VE BEEN _____ INTO MINISTRY!

"God, in his grace, chose me even before I was born, and called me to serve him."
 Gal. 1:15

(GN)

"I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received." Eph. 4:1

"... You have been chosen by God himself -- you are priests of the King... you are God's very own -- all this so that you may show to others how God called you out of darkness into his wonderful light! Once you were less than nothing, now you are God's own!" 1 Peter 2:9-10 (LB)

"... you will serve as holy priests..." 1 Peter 2:5 (GN)

I am not who I think I am
 I am not who you think I am
 But I really am who God says I am!

A LIFE CHANGING TRUTH - MY PRIMARY IDENTITY:

I AM A _____ OF JESUS CHRIST!

4. I'VE BEEN _____ FOR MINISTRY!

"God has given each of you some social abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God's many kinds of blessing." 1 Peter 4:10 (LB)

5. I'VE BEEN _____ FOR MINISTRY!

"(Jesus said) All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples..." Matt. 28:18-19

"We are therefore Christ's ambassadors..." 2 Cor. 5:20

6. I'M _____ TO MINISTRY!

"(Jesus) Your attitude must be like my own, for I, the Messiah, did not come to be served, but to serve..." Mt. 20:28 (LB)

"(To Archippus) Take heed to the ministry you've received from the Lord and fulfill it." Col. 4:17 (KJV)

7. I'M TO BE _____ FOR MINISTRY

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

8. THE BODY OF CHRIST _____ MY MINISTRY!

"All of you together are the one body of Christ and each of you is a separate and necessary part of it." 1 Cor. 12:27 (LB)

Ministry always functions in the context of the _____

"When Jesus saw the crowds, he had compassion on them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said, 'The harvest is great but the workers are few. Ask the Lord to send out workers into his harvest field.'" Matt. 9:36-37

9. I AM _____ FOR MY MINISTRY!

"So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God." Romans 14:12

The Parable of the Talents: Matt. 25:14-30

10. I WILL BE _____ FOR MY MINISTRY!

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward." Col. 3:23, 24

"Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your Master's happiness!"

Matt.

25:23

B. THE PROCESS FOR DISCOVERING MY MINISTRY (ROMANS 12:1-8)

STEP 1: DEDICATE _____

"I urge you... to offer yourselves as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God -- which is your spiritual worship." (vs. 1)

STEP 2: ELIMINATE _____

"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind." (vs. 2)

STEP 3: EVALUATE _____

"Don't cherish exaggerated ideas of yourself or your importance, but try to have a sane estimate of your capabilities by the light of the faith God has given to you. (vs.3 Ph)

STEP 4: COOPERATE _____

"Just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we who are many form one Body and each member belongs to all the others." (vs. 5)

Implications from Paul's Anatomy Lesson:
(See also 1 Cor. 12:1-31)

- * Every member is a minister in Christ's body.
- * Every member has a different function.
- * Every member's ministry is important.
- * Every member belongs to the others.

"Each of us is a part of the one Body of Christ... The eye can never say to the hand, 'I don't need you.' The head cannot say to the feet. 'I don't need you.' And some of the parts that seem weakest and least important are really the most necessary! ... So God put the body together in such a way that extra honor and care are given to those parts that might otherwise seem less important." 1 Cor. 12; 13, 21-22, 24b (LB)

STEP 5: ACTIVATE _____

"We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us... prophesy... serving... teaching... encouraging... contributing... leadership... showing mercy..." Romans 12:6-8

C. DISCOVERING HOW GOD HAS SHAPED ME FOR MINISTRY**1. HOW HAS GOD SHAPED ME?**

"Your hands formed and shaped me..." Job 10:8a (GN)

God has been molding and shaping you for ministry since you were born. In fact, God started uniquely shaping even before you were born!

"Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! It is amazing to think about. Your workmanship is marvelous... You were there while I was being formed... You saw me before I was born and scheduled each day of my life before I began to breathe."

Psalm 139:14-16

(LB)

1. I was _____ for a purpose.
2. I am _____!
3. I am _____.

"What right do you have, a human being, to cross-examine God? The pot has no right to say to the potter: Why did you make me this shape? A potter can do what he likes with the clay!" Rom. 9:20-21

In Ministry... Function follows Form!

MINISTRY IS DETERMINED BY SEVERAL FACTORS

"There are different kinds of SPIRITUAL GIFTS but the same Spirit gives them. There are different WAYS OF SERVING, but the same Lord is served. There are different ABILITIES to perform service, but the same God gives ability to everyone for their service. The Spirit's presence is shown IN SOME WAY in each one, for the good of all." 1 Cor. 12:4-7 (GN)

2. MY S.H.A.P.E. WILL DETERMINE MY MINISTRY

S _____

"... Each man has his own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that." 1 Cor. 7:7b

WHAT AM I GIFTED TO DO?

H _____

"God has put it into their hearts to accomplish his purpose..." Rev. 17:7

"For it is God who works in you, inspiring both the will and the deed, for his own chosen purpose!" Phil. 2:13 (NEB)

WHAT DO I LOVE TO DO?

A _____

"There are different abilities to perform service..." 1 Cor. 12:6

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

"... our **competence** comes from God."
2 Cor. 3:5b

WHAT NATURAL TALENTS AND SKILLS DO I HAVE?

P _____

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

WHERE DOES MY PERSONALITY BEST SUIT ME TO SERVE?

E _____

* **WHAT** _____ **EXPERIENCES HAVE I HAD?**

"There has been enough time for you to be teachers -- BUT you still need to be taught... (you are) without any **experience** in the matter of right and wrong." Heb. 5:12-13

* **WHAT** _____ **EXPERIENCES HAVE I HAD?**

"Sometimes it takes a painful experience to make us change our ways."

Prov. 20:30

(GN)

"God helps us in our troubles, **so we are able to help others** who have all kinds of troubles, using the same help that we ourselves have received from God."

2 Cor. 1:4

(GN)

* **WHAT** _____ **EXPERIENCES HAVE I HAD?**

"Always remember what you have learned. Your **education** is your life -- guard it well!"

Prov. 4:13 (GN)

* **WHAT** _____ **EXPERIENCES HAVE I HAD?**

"Because of **the service by which you have proven yourselves**, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel..." 2 Cor. 9:13

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

SUCCESS IS DOING WHAT GOD MADE ME TO DO!

3. HOW PAUL'S MINISTRY WAS "SHAPED"

PAUL'S SPIRITUAL GIFTS

"And of this gospel I was appointed a preacher and an apostle and a teacher."

2 Tim.

1:11

PAUL'S HEART

"My constant ambition has been to preach the gospel where the name of Christ was previously unknown, and to avoid building on another man's foundation."

Rom. 15:20

(Ph)

"For God, who was at work in the ministry of Peter as an apostle to the Jews, was also at work in my ministry as an apostle to the Gentiles." Gal 2:8

"Life is worth nothing unless I use it for doing the work assigned me by the Lord Jesus..." Acts 20:24 (LB)

PAUL'S ABILITY

*"... Paul went to see them, and stayed and worked with them, because **he earned his living by making tents**, just as they did. He **debated** in the synagogues every Sabbath, trying to convince both Jews and Gentiles." Acts 18:2b-4 (GN)*

PAUL'S PERSONALITY

"For you have heard of my past... I persecuted the church with fanatical zeal... and did my best to destroy it... I was ahead of most of my contemporaries in the Jewish religion, and had a boundless enthusiasm..." Gal. 1:13-14 (Ph)

PAUL'S EXPERIENCES

HIS SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES

- * Watching Stephen be stone (Acts 8:1)
- * Conversion on the Damascus Road (Acts 9:1-20)
- * 3 years maturing in Arabia (Gal. 1:18)
- * Special vision from God (2 Cor. 12:2-7)

HIS PAINFUL EXPERIENCES

"... I have been in prison more times... near death often... been whipped five times with 39 lashes by the Jews and three times by the Romans... once stoned.... I've been in three shipwrecks... and once spent 24 hours in the water... In my travels I've been in danger from floods... robbers... enemies... wild animals and false friends... I've served long hours without sleep or food or shelter or even clothing..." 2 Cor. 11:23-27

*"To keep me from becoming conceited because of these great revelations, I was given a **thorn in my flesh**, a messenger from Satan, to torment me." 2 Cor. 12:7*

PAUL'S EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

"I received my training at the feet of Gamaliel, and I was schooled in the strictest observance of our fathers' Law." Acts 22:3 (Ph)

PAUL'S MINISTRY EXPERIENCES

Read the Book of Acts!

D. 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 (homework) before you meet with a Ministry Guide.

- " _____ YOUR GIFT" will give you an overview of spiritual gifts and help you identify which ones you may have been given by God.
- " _____ YOUR HEARTBEAT" will help you clarify what you really love to do.
- " _____ YOUR ABILITIES" will help you appreciate the natural talents and vocational skills you have.
- " _____ YOUR PERSONALITY" will help you see how your God-given temperament can best be used in ministry.
- " _____ YOUR EXPERIENCES" will help you review your history to discover how God has prepared you for a unique ministry that only you can fulfill.

REMEMBER:

1. Have fun! These are not "tests"! There is 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 "MY MINISTRY PROFILE". YOU WILL BRING THIS PROFILE WITH YOU TO YOUR INTERVIEW WITH A MINISTRY GUIDE.

1. WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

A Condensed Overview

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

- a. **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

b. THE PURPOSE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. 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)

2. 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. 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 think that your gift makes you superior to others. 1 Cor. 12:21
6. Realize that using your 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)
7. Recognize that I have both a *Primary* and a *Secondary* 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 where I am _____.

d. HOW TO DISCOVER YOUR GIFT: Get Started!

S _____
See suggested book list

T _____
Experiment with different areas of service

A _____
Use the "Unwrapping My Gift" Tool

R _____
Ask others what gifts they see in me.

T _____
Take advantage of S.A.L.T.

Three Ways God Wants You to Use Your Gifts

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

IT'S EASIER TO DISCOVER YOUR GIFT THROUGH MINISTRY THAN TO DISCOVER YOUR MINISTRY THROUGH YOUR GIFT**e. UNWRAPPING MY GIFTS**

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

All gifts are given to help the church fulfill its purposes. as you read through this list, check off your initial impression concerning yourself. Remember you can have many gifts.

1. **GIFTS THAT COMMUNICATE GOD'S WORD** (to both unbelievers and believers)

PREACHING ("Prophecy") 1 Cor. 14:3

The ability to publicly communicate God's word in an inspired way that convinces unbeliever and both challenges and comforts believers. The ability to persuasively declare God's will.

EVANGELISM Acts 8:26-40

The ability to communicate the Good News of Jesus Christ to unbelievers in a positive, non-threatening way. The ability to sense opportunities to share Christ and lead people to respond with faith.

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.

APOSTLE Rom. 15:20

The ability to start new churches and oversee their development.

2. GIFTS THAT EDUCATE GOD'S PEOPLE**TEACHING Eph. 4:12-13**

The ability to educate God's people by clearly explaining and applying the Bible in a way that causes them to learn. The ability to equip and train other believers for ministry.

ENCOURAGEMENT ("Exhortation") Acts 14:22

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.

WISDOM 1 Cor. 2:1, 6-16

The ability to understand God's perspective on life situations and share those insights in a simple, understandable way. The ability to explain what to do and how to do it.

DISCERNMENT 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

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.

3. **GIFTS THAT DEMONSTRATE GOD'S LOVE**

SERVICE Acts 6:1-7

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

MERCY Luke 10:30-37

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 1 Peter 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") 1 Peter 5:2-4

The ability 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 2 Cor. 8:1-7

The ability to generously contribute material resources and/or money beyond the 10% tithe so that the Body may grow and be strengthened. The ability to earn and manage money so it may be given to support the ministry of others.

4. **GIFTS THAT CELEBRATE GOD'S PRESENCE (WORSHIP OR PRAYER-RELATED GIFTS)**

MUSIC Psalm 150

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

ARTS & CRAFTS Exodus 31:3-11

The ability to build, maintain, or beautify the place of worship for God's glory. The ability to express worship through a variety of art forms.

4 Prayer-related gifts

INTERCESSION Col. 1:9-12

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 James 5:14-16

The ability to pray 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

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 WITH MY SPIRIT ("Tongues/Interpretation") 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.

***WHY WE DO NOT ALLOW THIS GIFT IN OUR SERVICES**

This gift caused such a problem in the Corinthian church; Paul had to write an entire chapter (1 Cor. 14) of guidelines.

1. It is for personal edification, not for the whole church.

"He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who preaches edifies the church." 1 Cor. 14:4

2. We are to focus on building up others, not ourselves.

"Unless you speak intelligible words... you will just be speaking into the air... try to excel in the gifts that build up the church." 1 Cor. 14:9 & 12

3. It confuses unbelievers in the service.

"... if some unbelievers come in, will they not say you are out of your mind?" 1 Cor. 14:23

4. Ideally, it is not meant to be used in the worship service.

"In the church, I would rather speak five intelligible words to instruct others than ten thousands words in a tongue. Brothers, stop thinking like children!" 1 Cor. 14:19-20

"The gift of speaking God's message should be under the speaker's control, because God does not want us to be in disorder, but in harmony and peace." 1 Cor. 14:32-33

5. GIFTS THAT SUPPORT SOME OF OUR CHURCH'S PURPOSES

LEADERSHIP -- The ability to clarify and communicate the purpose and direction, the vision, of a ministry in a way that attracts others to get involved. The ability to motivate others by example to work together in accomplishing a ministry goal.

ADMINISTRATION -- Also called the gift of organization. That is the ability to recognize the gifts of others and recruit them to ministry. The ability to organize and manage people, resources, and time for effective ministry. The ability to coordinate many details and execute the plans of leadership.

FAITH -- The gift of faith is the ability to trust God for what cannot be seen and to act on God's promise, regardless of what the circumstances indicate. The willingness to risk failure in pursuit of a God-given vision, expecting God to handle the obstacles.

2. MONITORING MY HEARTBEAT

a. Definition: "HEART"

1. "The organ that pumps your blood"
2. "Your emotional constitution or disposition"
3. "The vital force or driving impulse"

The Bible uses the term "heart" to represent the center of your motivation, desires, and inclinations.

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

b. My heart determines...

*** Why I say the things I do**

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

*** Why I feel the way I do**

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

*** Why I act the way I do**

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

Contrastingly, the Bible also teaches that *"The heart is deceitful above all things."* (Jer. 17:9)

We must continually check our heart with the Word of God and make sure that we are continually connected to His Spirit.

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.

c. 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 motivate 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)

d. TAKING A SPIRITUAL EKG

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 SINCE CHILDHOOD

- * "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.

1. 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

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 DOING DURING MY GRADE SCHOOL YEARS

1.

2.

AS A TEENAGER

1.

2.

3.

IN COLLEGE OR EARLY 20'S

1.

2.

3.

4.

IN MY "THIRTYSOMETHING" YEARS

1.

2.

3.

4.

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 MOTIVATED 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!

I LOVE TO ...

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 things that is already organized.

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.

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.

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.

DID YOU FIND THE BASIC MOTIVATIONAL DIRECTION OF YOUR HEART IN THIS LIST?
WRITE IT ON YOUR PERSONAL PROFILE:

e. APPLYING MY ABILITIES

"There are different abilities to perform service." 1 Cor. 12:6

"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!

FIVE MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT ABILITIES

(Skills and Talents)

- 1. MYTH: People aren't born with skills. All skills must be learned by experience.** This simply is not true. 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: Those skills which must be learned, are earned 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: If you have certain abilities, you will be very aware that you have them.** Again, that is not true. 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.

HOW TO DISCOVER YOUR MOTIVATED 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.

26 SPECIALIZED ABILITIES

1. **Entertaining ability:** to perform, act, dance, speak, magic
2. **Recruiting ability:** to enlist and motive people to get involved
3. **Interview ability:** to discover what others are really like
4. **Researching ability:** to read, gather information, collect data
5. **Artistic ability:** to conceptualize, picture, draw, paint, photograph, or make renderings
6. **Graphics ability:** to lay out, design, create visual displays or banners
7. **Evaluating ability:** to analyze data and draw conclusions
8. **Planning ability:** to strategize, design and organize programs and events
9. **Managing ability:** to supervise people to accomplish a task or event and coordinate the details involved
10. **Counseling ability:** to listen, encourage and guide with sensitivity
11. **Teaching ability:** to explain, train, demonstrate, tutor
12. **Writing ability:** to write articles, letters, books
13. **Editing ability:** to proofread or rewrite
14. **Promoting ability:** to advertise or promote events and activities
15. **Repairing ability:** to fix, restore, maintain
16. **Feeding ability:** to create meals for large or small groups
17. **Recall ability:** to remember or recall names and faces
18. **Mechanical operating ability:** to operate equipment, tools or machinery
19. **Resourceful ability:** to search out and find inexpensive materials or resources needed

- 20. **Counting ability:** to work with numbers, data or money
- 21. **Classifying ability:** to systematize and file books, data, records and materials so they can be retrieved easily
- 22. **Public Relations ability:** to handle complaints and unhappy customers with care and courtesy
- 23. **Welcoming ability:** to convey warmth, develop rapport, making others feel comfortable
- 24. **Composing ability:** to write music or lyrics
- 25. **Landscaping ability:** to do gardening and work with plants
- 26. **Decorating ability:** to beautify a setting for a special event

List your specialized abilities on your PERSONAL PROFILE

f. PLUGGING-IN YOUR PERSONALITY

In the space below, write your name:

Now write your name with your 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 balance the church.

Although there are many fine (and extremely detailed!) personality assessments available, for the purpose of your MINISTRY PROFILE, we want you to consider just five aspects:

HOW DO I SEE MYSELF?

Extroverted

Introverted

3	2	1	-	1	2	3
extreme		mild		mild		extreme

Thinker

Feeler

3	2	1	-	1	2	3
extreme		mild		mild		extreme

Routine

Variety

3	2	1	-	1	2	3
extreme		mild		mild		extreme

Self-Controlled

Self-Expressive

3	2	1	-	1	2	3
extreme		mild		mild		extreme

Cooperative

Competitive

3	2	1	-	1	2	3
extreme		mild		mild		extreme

RECORD YOUR RESPONSES ON YOUR PERSONAL PROFILE

g. EXAMINING MY EXPERIENCES

"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. 8:278

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

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)

ON YOUR MINISTRY PROFILE RECORD THESE EXPERIENCES:

- * Your spiritual Experiences
Meaningful decisions/times with God
- * Your Painful Experiences
Problems, hurts, trials-that have taught you
- * Your Educational Experiences
What were your favorite subjects in school
- * Your Ministry Experiences
How have you served in the past

RECORD THESE ON YOUR PERSONAL PROFILE

PART 2: Serving Through Open Bible

A. THE OPEN BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH MINISTRY STATEMENT (Our Philosophy of Ministry)

WE BELIEVE...

1. ABOUT MINISTRY

* Salvation in Jesus Christ automatically includes a call to ministry. Every believer is created, saved, called, gifted, authorized, and commanded to minister.

* _____ is the heart of the Christian life (Matt. 20:28)

* _____ follows form in ministry. How God made me determines what He intends for me to do. God has uniquely shaped each individual for a specific ministry.

* God has given all His children gifts that can be developed and used in ministry. Everyone is a "10" in some area. Everyone has something to offer. Developing and using your gifts is an act of good _____ and of _____ .

* You discover your gifts through ministry, instead of discovering your ministry by identifying your gifts.

* The evidence of the right match between my "*shape*" and my ministry is _____ and _____ .

* Membership and maturity are prerequisites to ministry. Therefore we require class attendance and commitment to these two areas before serving through Open Bible Baptist Church.

2. ABOUT THE BODY OF CHRIST

* God intends for ministry to be performed through the context of the local church. Membership includes a commitment to ministry.

* The Holy Spirit has provided our church body with all the spiritually gifted people needed to do everything He wants done. Our task is to discover, enlist, train, and support these people in ministry.

* The church is to operate on the basis of spiritual gifts, rather than elected offices. We do not _____ people to ministries.

* The church is a _____, not a business, an _____, not an organization. Therefore we streamline the structure in order to maximize ministry and minimize maintenance. We don't bury ministries under a bunch of procedures.

* The mobilization of every member as a minister is the key to balanced growth of the church.

* The greater good of the whole body must always take priority over the needs of any single ministry. There is no place for _____ in God's family.

3. ABOUT THE ROLE OF PASTORS

* The equipping of the members for ministry is the number one priority of the pastoral staff. The people are the ministers and the pastors are the administrators. (Ephesians 4:11-12)

* The objective of the Ministry Development Group is to _____ an army of ministers who are maximizing their unique gifts, heart, abilities, personality and experiences in a meaningful place of service through our church.

* Every member deserves personal assistance in discovering a meaningful place of service. We value the individual more than the ministry.

* Those involved in ministry are entitled to competent leadership from the staff. Therefore, every ministry is assigned a staff supervisor who is committed to the success of that ministry.

* Each staff supervisor is to provide training, encouragement, guidance, feedback and resources to the ministers under his or her care.

4. ABOUT ACCOUNTABILITY

* We become what we are committed to. Therefore we encourage growth in commitment to Christ and His Church.

* Everything rises or falls on _____. No ministry can exceed the commitment of those leading it.

* One mark of maturing church is that the standards for leadership are raised every year.

* There must be periodic reviews of all ministries. We do what is inspected, not just what is expected. Best intentions are not enough.

5. ABOUT TRAINING

- * Every leader is a _____ . The moment you stop learning, you stop leading.
- * We emphasize on the job training more than pre-service training. We learn best by doing. We delegate to develop people.

6. ON DIVERSITY OF MINISTRY

- * We have unity without uniformity. We believe diversity in ministries simply illustrates the unique giftedness of individuals.
- * Any member who has completed Class 301 may start a new ministry with the assistance of the Ministry Group.
- * Every ministry must fill one or more of the basic purposes of the church or we don't do it.
- * Ministries have _____ . If a ministry isn't meeting a need anymore, we will give it a decent burial. There are no sacred cows!
- * Most ministries require at least a one year commitment but we allow people to change ministries gracefully, without guilt. We don't lock people in permanently.
- * Only official ministries of Open Bible Baptist Church, under staff supervision are given publicity space in the bulletin.
- * Your *primary* ministry commitment should be in the area where you're _____ . Your *secondary* ministry includes serving in any other area of the body where you are _____ .
- * You are not ready for ministry until you are willing to serve *anywhere*.

7. ABOUT PERFORMANCE

- * We expect excellence in ministry, not _____ . Excellence is doing your best. God deserves our best.
- * We encourage creativity and innovation in ministry, which assumes mistakes will be made. "No mistakes" means you're not growing or trying anything new. We have no "failures" in ministry at Open Bible, only "experiments that didn't work!"
- * A failed project does not mean a failed person. There are no "wrong" people, only "right" people in the wrong ministry.

B. PREVIEWING THE OPPORTUNITIES

OPEN BIBLE 'S MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES:

1. **AUDIO/VIDEO TECHNICIANS:** A team who set up and monitor the sound for music activities.
2. **VBS/BACKYARD BIBLE CLUBS:** Backyard clubs for children during the summer for five days, about 2-3 hours per day. People needed to help in the activities for the children, and to provide homes at which to meet.
3. **BLOCK PARTY:** Conducts and annual block party for the community. Giving away free school supplies and food. Games and music are provided to facilitate relationship building within the community immediately surrounding the Church building.
4. **CARE CALLERS:** Call regular attenders and ask if they have any comments, prayer requests, or family needs to share with Pastor's or other staff. They record the comments, etc., and leave them for the Pastor's or other staff review or follow-up.
5. **COMMUNITY OUTREACH:** This team directs the homeless to protective shelters, those in need of food to meal providers, and the jobless to resources of employment.
6. **COFFEE BAR ATTENDANT:** This group set's up & staff's the coffee/drink bar before and after service.
7. **EXCELLENCE IN COMMUNICATION:** This team is charged with analyzing and improving all written and visual communication that go out from OBBC. They are experts in various areas of communications.
8. **MEDICAL CLINIC:** Serves the uninsured and impoverished with love and quality primary medical care, including pharmacy services.
9. **MISSIONS:** Short-term mission teams that participate in projects around the world that are designed to introduce various aspects of foreign missions and missionaries to team members. These trips vary in length from 10 days to 3 weeks.
10. **PASTOR'S RESEARCH:** This team of researchers is given specific target area of Biblical, demographic, and community study to compile for use in Sunday and mid-week messages.
11. **PRAISE TEAM SINGERS:** This organization has opportunity for singers to use their talent in both worship services, and community activities.

12. **PRAYER:** The team that prays for and follows up on every specific prayer request that comes through the registration cards. They coordinate all church prayer chains and prayer events.
13. **LIBRARY/RESOURCE ROOM:** The Library/resource room consists of written and audio/visual material that may be check out.
14. **YOUTH MINISTRY:** A team of people that helps with regular activities for Jr. High and Sr. High students. This team helps with food, coordinating socials, welcoming, leading or assisting small groups of 10-15 students.
15. **SUNDAY INFORMATION GUIDES/GREETERS:** This ministry helps people who visit the church by assisting people to locate classes, nursery, or sanctuary in the services on Sundays. The welcoming team that warmly greets everyone who is on their way to the worship service with a handshake and a smile. These people give first impressions of friendliness, acceptance, and love to members, attenders, and visitors alike.
16. **SUNDAY SCHOOL - ELEMENTARY:** Bible learning classes of 1st-6th grades that include games, discussions of Bible stories and characters with applications to practical living.
17. **SUNDAY SCHOOL - PRESCHOOL:** Classes that provide Christian principles for children from newborns to kindergartners.
18. **WORSHIP USHER:** The welcoming team that assists people into the worship service by handing out bulletins, overseeing the service in general, and assisting people where needed.

C. DEVELOPING A HEART TO SERVE

MY MINISTRY COVENANT

Having committed myself to membership and the habits essential for spiritual maturity, and agreeing with Open Bible's Ministry Statement, I commit to...

- * Discover my unique *shape* for ministry and serve in the area that best expresses what God made me to be.
- * Prepare for ministry by participating in C.L.A.S.S.
- * Demonstrate a servant's heart by serving in secondary ministries as the Body needs me.

- * Cooperate with other ministries and place the greater good of the whole Body over the needs of my ministry.

signed

date

This certifies that _____ is a commissioned minister of Jesus Christ through the Open Bible Baptist Church and is entrusted with the related responsibilities and privileges.

Jefferson D. Martin, Pastor

D. WHERE DO I GO FROM HERE?

1. COMMIT TO THE MINISTRY COVENANT.

Turn in your signed covenant tonight. Pastor will sign the back and have it laminated for you.

2. COMPLETE YOUR S.H.A.P.E. SELF-EVALUATION.

Then transfer your results to your Ministry Profile form.

3. SCHEDULE AN INTERVIEW WITH A PERSONAL STAFF MINISTRY GUIDE. Mail your personal profile to the office and then call for an appointment. Together you will select two or three ministry opportunities that best match your unique *S.H.A.P.E.* using the Open Bible **Ministry Discovery Guidebook**.

4. CONTACT THE STAFF SUPERVISORS OVER THE MINISTRIES YOU'VE SELECTED FOR POSSIBLE INVOLVEMENT. It is your responsibility to contact them. They will be waiting to hear from you. Do this **within two weeks** after your meeting with your Ministry Guide while your ideas are still fresh in your mind.

BEGIN SERVING!

6. START ATTENDING THE QUARTERLY LEADERSHIP MEETING

Open Bible's Leadership Team meets quarterly. Pastor speaks to the entire Ministry community on various leadership qualities. Once you are involved in ministry you are eligible to attend Leadership meetings.

7. ENHANCE YOUR MATURITY AND MINISTRY THROUGH OTHER C.L.A.S.S. COURSES. You only have one more base class to complete, "*Discovering My Mission #401*" and you will be a Grand Slam Disciple! You will be presented with a certificate and lapel pin for completing the 16 hours of basic training. Now begin to take elective course of your choosing!

OPEN BIBLE'S PROGRAM TO HELP YOU GROW Christian Life And Service Seminars

Go On To Home Base!

An Overview of C.L.A.S.S

100 Level Seminars: To lead people to Christ and membership at Open Bible

200 Level Seminars: To grow people to spiritual maturity

300 Level Seminars: To equip people with the skills they need for ministry

400 Level Seminars: To enlist people to the worldwide mission of sharing Christ

Name: _____

E



P



A



H



Personal Profile

My SHAPE for Ministry

Spiritual Gifts
Heart
Abilities

Personality Experience



Name:

Email:

Best contact phone:

Address:

SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Spiritual gifts I believe I have (from list):

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

I believe I may have these gifts because:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

HEART

1. What I have a heart for, or what motivates me most (from list):

- I love to
- I love to
- I love to

2. Who I love to work with most, and the age and type of people:

3. Church issues, ministries, or possible needs that excite or concern me most:

4. If I knew I couldn't fail, this is what I would attempt to do for God in my life:

ABILITIES

1. My current vocation/job is:

2. Other jobs or skills I have experience in:

3. I believe I have these specialized abilities (from list):

4. I have taught a class or seminar on:

5. I think my most valuable skill is:

PERSONALITY

This is how I see myself (circle one for each):

STRONG MILD STRONG

Introverted	1	2	3	4	5	Extroverted
Self-controlled	1	2	3	4	5	Self-expressive
Routine	1	2	3	4	5	Variety
Cooperative	1	2	3	4	5	Competitive

EXPERIENCES

MY SPIRITUAL JOURNEY

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

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

MY PAINFUL EXPERIENCES

These are the kinds of trials or problems I could relate to and encourage a fellow

Christian that who going through:

MY EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

Where I attended school, and my favorite

subjects: Seminars or training that has been

meaningful to me:

MY MINISTRY EXPERIENCE

Where I have served in the past (if applicable):

(Name of church, Where, Position of service, Years involved)

1.

2.

3.

After reviewing the Ministry Descriptions of Open Bible Baptist Church, I feel I

am best “shaped” for:

1.

2.

3.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS SURVEY

DIRECTIONS

This is not a test, so there are no wrong answers. The *Spiritual Gifts Survey* consists of 80 statements. Some items reflect concrete actions; other items are descriptive traits; and still others are statements of belief.

Select the one response you feel best characterizes yourself and place that number in the blank provided. Record your answer in the blank beside each item.

Do not spend too much time on any one item. Remember, it is not a test. Usually your immediate response is best.

Please give an answer for each item. Do not skip any items.

Do not ask others how they are answering or how they think you should answer.

Work at your own pace.

Your response choices are:

- 5—Highly characteristic of me/definitely true for me
 - 4—Most of the time this would describe me/be true for me
 - 3—Frequently characteristic of me/true for me—about 50 percent of the time
 - 2—Occasionally characteristic of me/true for me—about 25 percent of the time
 - 1—Not at all characteristic of me/definitely untrue for me
-

- _____ 1. I have the ability to organize ideas, resources, time, and people effectively.
 - _____ 2. I am willing to study and prepare for the task of teaching.
 - _____ 3. I am able to relate the truths of God to specific situations.
 - _____ 4. I have a God-given ability to help others grow in their faith.
 - _____ 5. I possess a special ability to communicate the truth of salvation.
 - _____ 6. I have the ability to make critical decisions when necessary.
 - _____ 7. I am sensitive to the hurts of people.
 - _____ 8. I experience joy in meeting needs through sharing possessions.
 - _____ 9. I enjoy studying.
 - _____ 10. I have delivered God's message of warning and judgment.
 - _____ 11. I am able to sense the true motivation of persons and movements.
 - _____ 12. I have a special ability to trust God in difficult situations.
 - _____ 13. I have a strong desire to contribute to the establishment of new churches.
 - _____ 14. I take action to meet physical and practical needs rather than merely talking about or planning to help.
 - _____ 15. I enjoy entertaining guests in my home.
 - _____ 16. I can adapt my guidance to fit the maturity of those working with me.
 - _____ 17. I can delegate and assign meaningful work.
-

- _____ 18. I have an ability and desire to teach.
- _____ 19. I am usually able to analyze a situation correctly.
- _____ 20. I have a natural tendency to encourage others.
- _____ 21. I am willing to take the initiative in helping other Christians grow in their faith.
- _____ 22. I have an acute awareness of the emotions of other people, such as loneliness, pain, fear, and anger.
- _____ 23. I am a cheerful giver.
- _____ 24. I spend time digging into facts.
- _____ 25. I feel that I have a message from God to deliver to others.
- _____ 26. I can recognize when a person is genuine/honest.
- _____ 27. I am a person of vision (a clear mental portrait of a preferable future given by God). I am able to communicate vision in such a way that others commit to making the vision a reality.
- _____ 28. I am willing to yield to God's will rather than question and waver.
- _____ 29. I would like to be more active in getting the gospel to people in other lands.
- _____ 30. It makes me happy to do things for people in need.
- _____ 31. I am successful in getting a group to do its work joyfully.
- _____ 32. I am able to make strangers feel at ease.
- _____ 33. I have the ability to plan learning approaches.
- _____ 34. I can identify those who need encouragement.
- _____ 35. I have trained Christians to be more obedient disciples of Christ.
- _____ 36. I am willing to do whatever it takes to see others come to Christ.
- _____ 37. I am attracted to people who are hurting.
- _____ 38. I am a generous giver.
- _____ 39. I am able to discover new truths.
- _____ 40. I have spiritual insights from Scripture concerning issues and people that compel me to speak out.
- _____ 41. I can sense when a person is acting in accord with God's will.
- _____ 42. I can trust in God even when things look dark.
- _____ 43. I can determine where God wants a group to go and help it get there.
- _____ 44. I have a strong desire to take the gospel to places where it has never been heard.
- _____ 45. I enjoy reaching out to new people in my church and community.
- _____ 46. I am sensitive to the needs of people.
- _____ 47. I have been able to make effective and efficient plans for accomplishing the goals of a group.

- _____ 48. I often am consulted when fellow Christians are struggling to make difficult decisions.
- _____ 49. I think about how I can comfort and encourage others in my congregation.
- _____ 50. I am able to give spiritual direction to others.
- _____ 51. I am able to present the gospel to lost persons in such a way that they accept the Lord and His salvation.
- _____ 52. I possess an unusual capacity to understand the feelings of those in distress.
- _____ 53. I have a strong sense of stewardship based on the recognition that God owns all things.
- _____ 54. I have delivered to other persons messages that have come directly from God.
- _____ 55. I can sense when a person is acting under God's leadership.
- _____ 56. I try to be in God's will continually and be available for His use.
- _____ 57. I feel that I should take the gospel to people who have different beliefs from me.
- _____ 58. I have an acute awareness of the physical needs of others.
- _____ 59. I am skilled in setting forth positive and precise steps of action.
- _____ 60. I like to meet visitors at church and make them feel welcome.
- _____ 61. I explain Scripture in such a way that others understand it.
- _____ 62. I can usually see spiritual solutions to problems.
- _____ 63. I welcome opportunities to help people who need comfort, consolation, encouragement, and counseling.
- _____ 64. I feel at ease in sharing Christ with nonbelievers.
- _____ 65. I can influence others to perform to their highest God-given potential.
- _____ 66. I recognize the signs of stress and distress in others.
- _____ 67. I desire to give generously and unpretentiously to worthwhile projects and ministries.
- _____ 68. I can organize facts into meaningful relationships.
- _____ 69. God gives me messages to deliver to His people.
- _____ 70. I am able to sense whether people are being honest when they tell of their religious experiences.
- _____ 71. I enjoy presenting the gospel to persons of other cultures and backgrounds.
- _____ 72. I enjoy doing little things that help people.
- _____ 73. I can give a clear, uncomplicated presentation.
- _____ 74. I have been able to apply biblical truth to the specific needs of my church.
- _____ 75. God has used me to encourage others to live Christlike lives.
- _____ 76. I have sensed the need to help other people become more effective in their ministries.

- _____ 77. I like to talk about Jesus to those who do not know Him.
- _____ 78. I have the ability to make strangers feel comfortable in my home.
- _____ 79. I have a wide range of study resources and know how to secure information.
- _____ 80. I feel assured that a situation will change for the glory of God even when the situation seem impossible.

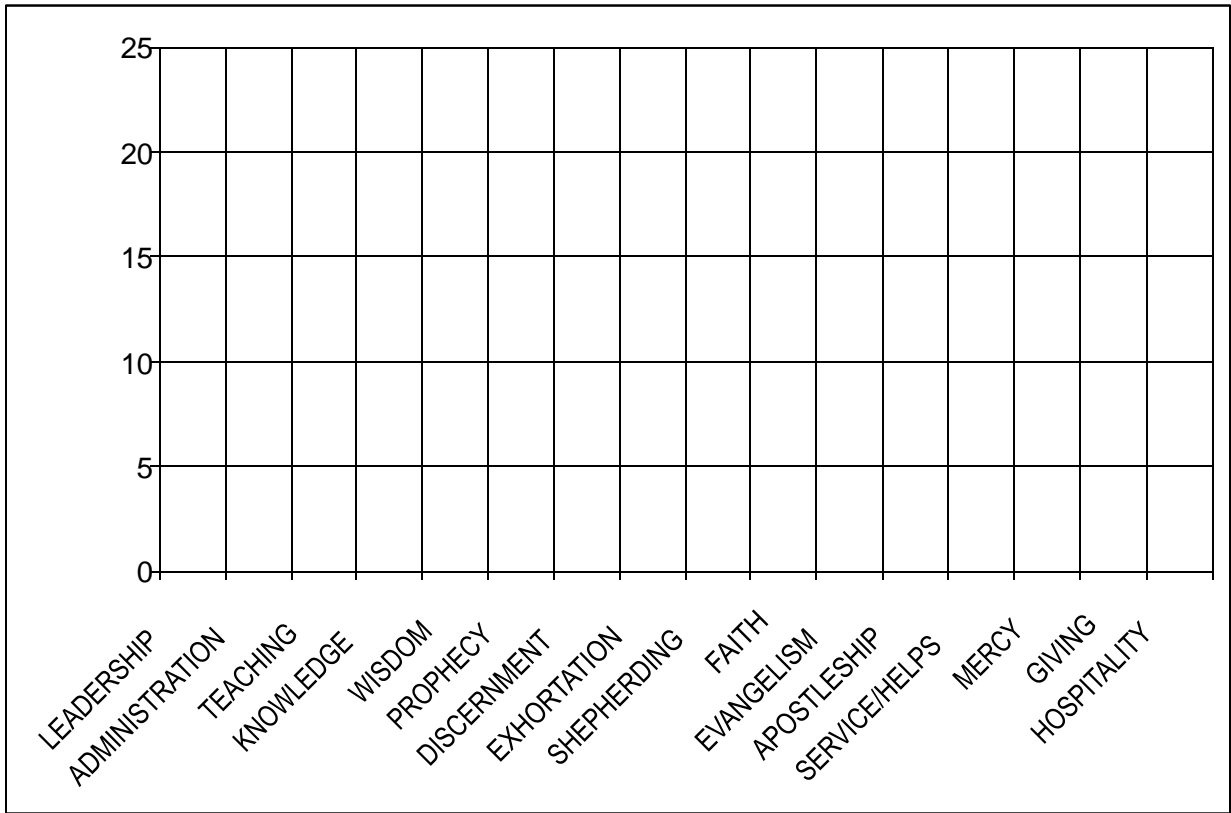
SCORING YOUR SURVEY

Follow these directions to figure your score for each spiritual gift.

1. Place in each box your numerical response (1-5) to the item number which is indicated below the box.
2. For each gift, add the numbers in the boxes and put the total in the TOTAL box.

LEADERSHIP	+	+	+	+	=	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 6		Item 16		Item 27		Item 43
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 1		Item 17		Item 31		Item 47
ADMINISTRATION	+	+	+	+	=	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 1		Item 17		Item 31		Item 47
TEACHING	+	+	+	+	=	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 2		Item 18		Item 33		Item 61
KNOWLEDGE	+	+	+	+	=	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 9		Item 24		Item 39		Item 68
WISDOM	+	+	+	+	=	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 3		Item 19		Item 48		Item 62
PROPHECY	+	+	+	+	=	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 10		Item 25		Item 40		Item 54
DISCERNMENT	+	+	+	+	=	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 11		Item 26		Item 41		Item 55
EXHORTATION	+	+	+	+	=	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 20		Item 34		Item 49		Item 63
SHEPHERDING	+	+	+	+	=	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 4		Item 21		Item 35		Item 50
FAITH	+	+	+	+	=	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 12		Item 28		Item 42		Item 56
EVANGELISM	+	+	+	+	=	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 5		Item 36		Item 51		Item 64
APOSTLESHIP	+	+	+	+	=	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 13		Item 29		Item 44		Item 57
SERVICE/HELPS	+	+	+	+	=	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 14		Item 30		Item 46		Item 58
MERCY	+	+	+	+	=	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 7		Item 22		Item 37		Item 52
GIVING	+	+	+	+	=	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 8		Item 23		Item 38		Item 53
HOSPITALITY	+	+	+	+	=	
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 15		Item 32		Item 45		Item 60
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	TOTAL
Item 15		Item 32		Item 45		Item 60

GRAPHING YOUR PROFILE



1. For each gift place a mark across the bar at the point that corresponds to your TOTAL for that gift.
2. For each gift shade the bar below the mark that you have drawn.
3. The resultant graph gives a picture of your gifts. Gifts for which the bars are tall are the ones in which you appear to be strongest. Gifts for which the bars are very short are the ones in which you appear not to be strong.

Now that you have completed the survey, thoughtfully answer the following questions.

The gifts I have begun to discover in my life are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

After prayer and worship, I am beginning to sense that God wants me to use my spiritual gifts to serve Christ's body by _____.

I am not sure yet how God wants me to use my gifts to serve others. But I am committed to prayer and worship, seeking wisdom and opportunities to use the gifts I

have received from God.

Ask God to help you know how He has gifted you for service and how you can begin to use this gift in ministry to others.