

Experience Information

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him... Romans 8:28

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. Studies have shown that the average person has 500 to 600 different abilities! Each one of us has a number of things we enjoy and can do well. The key is matching your abilities with the right ministry.

"There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men." I Corinthians 12:6

Other factors in determining your ministry are your life experiences. God uses a number of things to shape and mold all of us: education, work, hobbies, our families and upbringing, trials of life, and spiritual/ministry experiences.

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

In addition to abilities and experience, time is of the essence. God has chosen to work through His church, and we have a unique opportunity to use our lives to make an eternal difference. After work and family commitments, leisure activities, our children's various interests, and other pastimes, we often believe we have no time to be involved in ministry. We must grasp a vision for what God can do in and through His people when they make themselves available to Him.

"There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven." Ecclesiastes 3:1

A fourth component in discovering where you can best serve in the church is your maturity as a believer. Each of us is on a journey in our relationship with God. Each is at a different place along the way. Sometimes a ministry in the church may require more spiritual maturity than a person possesses at that point. However, everyone can begin to serve at an appropriate level of responsibility while continuing to grow in his or her relationship with Christ.

Experience Consultation

How do natural abilities differ from spiritual gifts?

Spiritual gifts are special abilities distributed by the Holy Spirit at conversion. Natural abilities are also given to us by God, but they are given at conception. These are the gifts that we were created with and that He shapes throughout our lives.

Can my life experiences change where I serve?

God often uses people and every day events in your life to alter the direction of your ministry path. For example, the book of Genesis (Ch.37-51) details the life of Joseph and how his service changed with his life experiences.

Experience Assessment

God uses your natural abilities, experiences, availability and maturity to mold you into the person He created you to be. The following questions are designed to help you understand how God can use your natural abilities and experiences.

Experience Assessment

Have Done	Really Enjoy		Have Done	Really Enjoy		Have Done	Really Enjoy	
		<u>Professional Services</u>			<u>Office Skills</u>			<u>Construction</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mental Health	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Typing (40+ WPM)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	General Contractor
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Social Work	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Receptionist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Architect
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Financial	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Office Manager	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carpenter: General
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dental	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Data Entry	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carpenter: Finish
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Medical	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Filing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carpenter: Cabinet
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mail Room	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Electrician
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nursing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Library	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plumbing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carpet Cleaning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transcription	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Heating
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Window Washing				<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Air Conditioning
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pilot			<u>Musical</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Painting
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Engineer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Choir Director (Kids)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Papering
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Journalist/Writer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Choir	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Masonry
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Systems Analyst	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Soloist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Roofer
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lifeguard	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Pianist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Telephones
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Counseling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Piano Tuner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Concrete
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Career Counseling			<u>Theatrical</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Carpet Installer
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Unemployment			Actor/Actress			Interior Design
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Day Care Director	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Dance			<u>Computer Skills</u>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Law Enforcement	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mime	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Database Mgmt
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Personnel Manager	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Puppets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Word Processing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Public Relations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Clowning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Web Page Design
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Advertising	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Illusionist	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Desktop Publishing
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Television	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Audio Productions	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Presentation Design
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Computer Programmer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sound/Mixing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Graphic Design
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Paramedic/EMT	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Lighting	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spreadsheet Mgmt
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Commercial Bus Driver	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Set Construction			<u>General Help</u>
		<u>Teaching</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Set Design			Child Care
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Preschool	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stage Hand	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Customer Service
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Elementary	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Script Writer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Food Service
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Junior High	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Video Editing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Building Maintenance
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior High	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Video Camera Operator	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation (Car)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Adults (18-29)			<u>Working With</u>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Transportation (Truck)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Single Adults (30+)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Physically Challenged	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Catering/Cooking
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Couples	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mentally Challenged	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Weddings
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Men's Groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hearing Impaired (Sign)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Bookstore
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Women's Groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Incarcerated	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tape Duplication
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Tutoring	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Learning Disabilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Plant Care (Indoor)
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Learning Disabled	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Nursing Homes/Shut-ins	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sports Official
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Researcher	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Hospital Visitation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sports Instructor
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Aerobics	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Meals on Wheels			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Budget Counseling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Housing for Homeless			
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spanish	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
		<u>Art</u>						
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Layout						
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Photography						
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Graphics						
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Multi-Media						
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Typesetting						
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Crafts						
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Artist						
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Banners						
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Decorating						

Are there any other products, specific resources, skills, interests, talents, abilities or unique opportunities you would like to share with the church?

Experiences

My educational experiences

Classes in school, seminars, or training programs I particularly enjoyed:

My work experiences

What jobs have I performed well?

What jobs did I most enjoy?

My recreational experiences

The hobbies, clubs, teams, and organizations I have been involved in have prepared me for:

My family experiences

My experiences in my family of origin help me to serve because:

My experiences in my current family situation help me to serve because:

Other past relational experiences have shaped me in the following ways:

My painful experiences (Problems, hurts, trials you learned from):

I could relate to and encourage someone who is going through these kinds of trial and problems:

Experiences

Spiritual Maturity

This is how and when I became a Christian and how that experience has impacted me:

Some of the most significant spiritual experiences in my life since that time have been:

Some of the most significant relationships that have helped me grow spiritually are:

Ministry Experience

Where I am currently serving or have served in the past:

	Name of Church	Ministry Team	Position of Service	Years Involved
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				

Of the ministry experiences above, I really enjoyed doing:

As I look back at my ministry experiences, I feel I was particularly effective in:

Time Availability

In the current season of life, I would describe my availability as:

Restricted (1-2 hours per week)	During the week (daytime)	M	T	W	Th	F
Modest (3-5 hours per week)	During the week (evenings)	M	T	W	Th	F
Notable (6-10 hours per week)	Available on weekends only					
Sizable (11-20 hours per week)	Available some weekends only					
Not sure	I need to schedule ahead of time					

Spiritual Maturity

As I look at my life and walk with God at this time, I would say that I am a:

- New Christian Just beginning my faith walk and learning more about a relationship with Christ
- Beginning Disciple Made a commitment to follow Christ and need assistance in order to grow in my relationship with Him
- Developing Disciple Active, growing relationship with Christ
- Multiplying Disciple Mature believer able to lead and guide others in their relationship and growth in Christ