



## Who Are You? Where Do You Fit?

Who Are You? Finding Your Identity in Christ ● May 1

What Are Your Passions and Gifts? Discovering Your Unique SHAPE ● May 8

Where Do You Fit? Identifying Your Calling and Place in the Body ● May 15

~ all teaching notes and handouts online: [gracebjfc.org/archives/bickel.asp](http://gracebjfc.org/archives/bickel.asp) ~

## **Week 3: Where Do You Fit? Identifying Your Calling and Place in the Body**

### **Your Unique Place in the Body – Discovering who God has made you to be**

*“Today you are you, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is youer than you.”*

*“Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not.”*

-Dr. Suess {from the books “Happy Birthday to You” and “The Lorax” respectively}

### **Know Your IDENTITY**

- Created by God, In His Image, For a Purpose
- Sinful
- Redeemed by God, and New Creation in Christ, Indwelt by the Spirit
- Not of This World, With an Eternal Hope and Future

### **Discover Your S.H.A.P.E.** (Erik Rees, “S.H.A.P.E. – finding and Fulfilling your Unique Purpose for Life”)

- Spiritual Gifts
- Heart
- Abilities
- Personality
- Experiences

### **\*\* Small Group:** break into groups of 3-4, give 2-3 min for each person to share:

- What are your gifts (or what do you think they might be)
- Where might God be calling you to serve now (general or specific, in gift or weakness)
- Others in the group give any additional observations / input

### **Embrace What God Has Called You to Do – Discovering God’s Calling**

#### **Why does God give “Spiritual Gifts”?**

- Romans 12:1, 3-8
- I Corinthians 12:1, 4-31
- Ephesians 4:1-7, 11-13

## How do we discover our gifts?

**\* Gifts in Context: Focusing on God's Mission rather than My Gift**  
*Are Spiritual Gifts "talents" or "ministries"*

*"Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers, pray for powers equal to your tasks" (George W. Bush)*

## Understand Your CALLING

- **Individually**
  
- **As a Body**

## What is the Church?

### **The Nicene Creed**

I believe in **one God, the Father Almighty**, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in **one Lord Jesus Christ**, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made.

Who, for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And **I believe in the Holy Ghost**, the Lord and Giver of Life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

And **I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church**. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

- **One** (Ephesians 4:4-5)
- **Holy** (Ephesians 5:25-27)
- **Catholic** (Universal) (Ephesians 2:12-16)
- **Apostolic** (Ephesians 2:19-22)
- **Church** (Acts 2:44-47, Revelation 19)

- Preach the Word, Right use of Sacraments, Church Discipline
- Universal / Particular
- Visible / Invisible
- Organization / Organism
- **We Are the Church!**
- **The Body of Christ:** I Corinthians 12:12-20, 27 ; Romans 12:4-6 ; Ephesians 4:15-16 ; I Peter 2: 4-6
- **The People of God:** I Peter 2: 9-10 ; Deuteronomy 7:6-11 ; Jeremiah 32:36-41
- **The Family of God:** Romans 8:14-17 ; Mark 3:31-35 ; Luke 14:26-27
- *Real People Loving and Serving the Real God*

### **Finding Your Fit in Christ's Body**

### **How do You Discover, Develop and Serve in You role in Christ's Church?**

*Our talents are the gift that God gives to us... What we make of our talents is our gift back to God.  
(Kyle Longacre, facebook status)*

#### **Journey of Discovery:**

- Paul
- Me
- You

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  - Sinful
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- Discover your **S.H.A.P.E.** (Erik Rees, “S.H.A.P.E. – finding and Fulfilling your Unique Purpose for Life”)
  - Spiritual Gifts
  - Heart
  - Abilities
  - Personality
  - Experiences
  
- Embrace Your **Calling**
  - Individually
  - As a Body
  
- Find Your **Fit**

### **APPLY:** This week

- Work through **Who Am I? packet** and prayerfully consider **Where Do I Fit?**
- Fill out and turn in **Grace Ministry Opportunities**
- Decide what **Next Steps** will you take (both things to read/study and places to get involved!)

### **For Further Study:**

- a. Sermon: **“Faithfulness in God’s Family”** by Mark Bickel (gracebfc.org)
- b. Vision: **Grace BFC Vision Statement** (gracebfc.org)
- c. Book: **“When the Church Was a Family”** by Joseph H. Hellerman
- d. Book: **“What are Spiritual Gifts? Rethinking the Conventional Approach”** by Kenneth Berding
- e. Book: **“S.H.A.P.E. – Finding and Fulfilling Your Unique Purpose for Life”** by Erik Rees
- f. Book: **“What You Do Best in the Body of Christ”** by Bruce Bugbee
- g. Workbook: **“Discover Your Spiritual Gifts the Network Way”** by Bruce Bugbee  
*{note: other Spiritual Gift & Personality tests also available}*
- h. Bible Study: **“Identity: Becoming What God Wants Us To Be”** NavPress