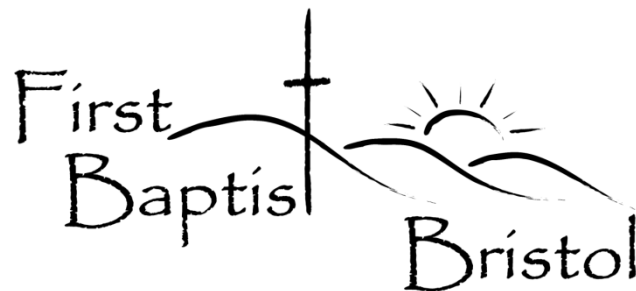


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**What  
S.H.A.P.E.**

**are  
you?**

**Spiritual Gifts  
Heart  
Abilities  
Personality  
Experience**



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# What S.H.A.P.E. are you?

God has created you and shaped your life in unique and wonderful ways so that you can experience the joy of helping the Kingdom of God “*to come on earth as it is in heaven*” (Matthew 6:10). We do different things to make a living, but we all have the same vocation, or calling, which is to use our talents, abilities, interests, personality, and experience to follow Jesus, to strengthen His Body, the Church, and to enlarge God’s Kingdom on earth. When we use our abilities for God’s glory, we come to know God more fully as we obey Him and He accomplishes His work through our lives.

Rick Warren of Saddleback Church in California developed the S.H.A.P.E. acronym several years ago, and it has become widely used to help Christians discover their unique “SHAPE for ministry.” This acronym has been adopted by ACS, the company that makes our church management software, as a template church members can use to let church leaders know how to deploy their skills most effectively.

As you know, we reorganized our church structure last year in order to make it possible for our members to use their abilities in ways that are more tangible, time-limited, and fun! This project-oriented approach is much more flexible and responsive than was our previous committee-focused approach, and it also allows many more opportunities for service to persons who are not yet members of our congregation.

In order for this new approach to work well, though, the leaders of our WORSHIP, MEMBERSHIP, DISCIPLESHIP, MINISTRY, and MISSION TEAMS need to know what “SHAPE” you’re in! Our MINISTRY Team is asking every member and regular attender to complete a Personal Profile, either online at [www.fcbristol.org](http://www.fcbristol.org) or by completing this form and returning it to the church office.

You certainly don’t have to put down anything you don’t wish to put down, but this information will help us to help you as you seek to become all God made you to be. *Thanks in advance for your help!*

Please begin by letting us know how you want church leaders to contact you . . . .

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

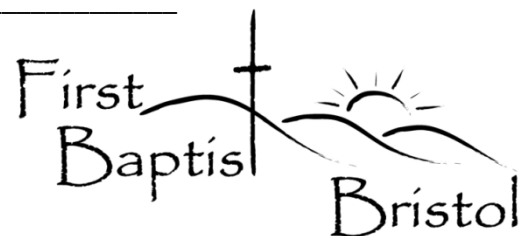
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



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# SPIRITUAL GIFTS

On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was given to all believers (Acts 2:3-4), and the Spirit continues to be given to every person who believes in Jesus (Acts 2:38; Romans 8:9). At the same time, that is, at conversion, God gives at least one spiritual gift to every believer (1 Corinthians 12:7, 11; Ephesians 4:4-7). These gifts can be, and often are, strongly related to our pre-conversion talents and abilities, but they don't have to be. Three good tests for the presence of a spiritual gift are: (1) you will enjoy using this ability; (2) you will be effective in using this ability; and (3) other people will confirm that God is using you in this way.

No believer has every spiritual gift, and no single gift is given to everyone (1 Corinthians 12:27-31). Our different sets of spiritual gifts complement each other to accomplish God's purposes through the church (Romans 12:4-6; 1 Corinthians 3:6-9, 12:4-7).

While knowing your spiritual gifts is helpful, this is not as important as making sure that your life is a blessing to others. Love is the most important factor in spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13; Matthew 22:39-40), and the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives turns our-lives-as-a-whole into gifts!

After reading the descriptions of the gifts that follow, please put a mark in the box to the left of those gifts you believe are active in your life. This list is not exhaustive, so please feel free to list others at the end. The following Internet links provide online gift assessments that may be helpful as you consider your gifts, particularly if this is a new concept for you.

[www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnNlLtH/b.1355371/k.9501/Spiritual\\_Gifts.htm](http://www.umc.org/site/c.lwL4KnNlLtH/b.1355371/k.9501/Spiritual_Gifts.htm) (21 questions)

<http://mintools.com/spiritual-gifts-test.htm> (35 questions)

[www.elmertowns.com/spiritual\\_gifts\\_test/](http://www.elmertowns.com/spiritual_gifts_test/) (90 questions)

[www.spiritualgiftstest.com/](http://www.spiritualgiftstest.com/) (96 questions)

[www.churchgrowth.org/cgi-cg/gifts.cgi?intro=1](http://www.churchgrowth.org/cgi-cg/gifts.cgi?intro=1) (108 questions)

Gift	Description
<b>Apostleship</b>	This gift enables Christians to be recognized as spiritual leaders by a variety of churches.
<b>Artistic Creativity</b>	This gift enables Christians to use artistic expression for the edification of others.
<b>Counseling</b>	This gift enables Christians to serve others through comfort, admonition, and encouragement, so that they experience help and healing.
<b>Craftsmanship</b>	This gift enables Christians to use a trade or craft for the good of the Body of Christ.
<b>Deliverance</b>	This gift enables Christians to help people suffering from demonic oppression experience deliverance.
<b>Discernment</b>	This gift enables Christians to know for sure whether a given behavior originates from a divine, human, or satanic source.
<b>Evangelism</b>	This gift enables Christians to communicate the gospel to non-Christians in a manner conducive to leading them to faith.

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<b>Faith</b>	This gift enables Christians to discern, with an unusual degree of confidence, the will of God for the future development of ministry.
<b>Giving</b>	This gift enables Christians to give material things cheerfully and generously to others.
<b>Healing</b>	This gift enables Christians to serve as God's instruments for restoring the health of others without the aid of medical tools.
<b>Helps</b>	This gift enables Christians to place their own gifts at the disposal of other Christians, thus releasing them to concentrate more on their ministry.
<b>Hospitality</b>	This gift enables Christians to maintain an open home, offering food and lodging to guests.
<b>Interpretation</b>	This gift enables Christians to make known in a commonly understood language a message originally communicated in tongues.
<b>Knowledge</b>	This gift enables Christians to generate, collect, and analyze ideas that are important for the health of the church.
<b>Leadership</b>	This gift enables Christians to set goals for the church and to communicate them in such a way that others volunteer to achieve them.
<b>Mercy</b>	This gift enables Christians to demonstrate empathy through practical deeds toward those who are troubled in mind, body, or spirit.
<b>Miracles</b>	This gift enables Christians to serve as human instruments through whom God performs powerful acts that surpass natural laws in order to communicate a specific message to God's people.
<b>Missionary</b>	This gift enables Christians to utilize their other gifts in a second culture.
<b>Music</b>	This gift enables Christians to play a musical instrument or to use their voice in singing for the glory of God and the edification of others.
<b>Organization</b>	This gift enables Christians to understand goals for specific areas of ministry and to draft effective plans toward reaching these goals.
<b>Prayer</b>	This gift enables Christians to pray for concrete requests over long periods of time, and to receive visible answers far more frequently than most Christians.
<b>Prophecy</b>	This gift enables Christians to receive a message from God by the Holy Spirit and to communicate it to other people.
<b>Service</b>	This gift enables Christians to recognize where their participation is needed and to make sure that the most urgent jobs get done.
<b>Shepherding</b>	This gift enables Christians to assume long-term personal responsibility for the spiritual well-being of a group of believers.
<b>Singleness</b>	This gift enables Christians to live happily as singles while contributing more effectively to the kingdom of God.
<b>Suffering</b>	This gift enables Christians to suffer for their faith while at the same time maintaining a joyful, victorious spirit.
<b>Teaching</b>	This gift enables Christians to communicate truth in a manner that enables others to learn and contributes to the health of the church.
<b>Tongues</b>	This gift enables Christians to use a language they have never learned, either in their personal prayer times or for a public message.
<b>Voluntary Poverty</b>	This gift enables Christians to deny themselves material well being so that they can maintain a standard of living that parallels the poor.
<b>Wisdom</b>	This gift enables Christians to help others apply existing knowledge to specific situations.

Other Gifts: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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# HEART

When we speak of someone's passion, of what he or she is really motivated to do, we sometimes say that "she/he has a *heart* for that ministry/age group." Even as we have differing gifts, so we have differing interests and passions as well. Some of us "have a heart" for athletics, some for aesthetics, some for outreach, some for youth, etc. How would you complete the following sentence?

- I love to \_\_\_\_\_
- I love to \_\_\_\_\_
- I love to \_\_\_\_\_

With what age group or type of people do you love to work most?

What church ministries, issues, or possible needs excite or concern you the most?

Is there a ministry or mission that keeps coming to your mind again and again?

A number of possible ministries are listed on the next page. If you have a heart for any of these ministries, please put an "X" in the box beside that ministry.

*If you are submitting only pages 5-8, please let us know how you want church leaders to contact you:*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

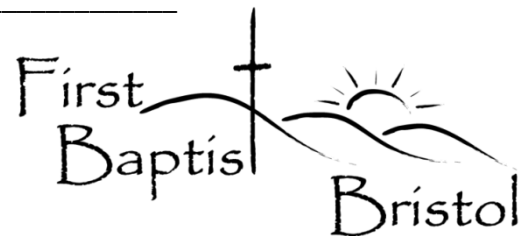
City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Mobile Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_



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	Abuse/Family Violence		Homeless		Repair
	Addiction Recovery		Hospitality		Sanctity of Life
	At-Risk Children		Hospitalized		Senior Adults
	Benevolence/ Mercy Ministries		Infants		Serving/Helping
	Bereavement		Library/Media Center		Shut-Ins
	Children		Memorials		Special Olympics
	College		Middle School		Teaching
	Community Issues		Missions: International		Tellers
	Crisis Counseling		Missions: Local		Toddlers
	Designing/Developing		Missions: Stateside		Ushers
	Disaster Relief		Mobilizing for Ministry		Visitation
	Discipleship		Music: Choral		Wedding Coordinator
	Education		Music: Instrumental		Women's Ministry
	Elementary		Organization		Worship
	Environment		Outreach		Young Couples
	Financial Management		Picnics/Social Events		Youth
	Greeting/Welcoming		Political Issues		
	Health/Fitness		Preschool		
	High School		Prison Ministry		
	History		Publicity		

Do you have a heart for a ministry that you don't see listed? If so, please list that here:

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# ABILITIES

My current vocation is:

Other jobs or skills in which I have experience:

I have taught classes or seminars in:

I believe my most valuable personal assets are:

A number of skills are listed on the next page. If you have skill in any of those areas, please put an "X" in the box beside that area.

	Administration		Floral Arranging		Programming
	Arts/Crafts		Food Preparation		Public Speaking
	Athletics/Sports		Graphic Design		Puppets
	Audio/Visual		Insurance		Scenery Production
	Cake Decorating		Landscaping		Secretary/Office Support
	Catering		Library Science		Set-up/Tear-down
	Computers		Maintenance/Repairs		Sewing
	Computers/Technology		Microsoft Access		Sound System
	Cooking		Musical: Vocal		Strategic Planning
	Data Entry		Musician: Instrumental		Van/Bus Driver
	Decorating		Painting		Vehicle Maintenance
	Desktop Publishing		Performing Arts/Drama		Videography
	Drawing		Personnel Management		Volunteers
	Electrical Work		Photography		Web Design
	Electronics		Planning Trips or Events		Word Processing
	Facilities Management		Plumbing		Writing
	Finance		PowerPoint		

Do you have a skill or skills that you don't see listed? If so, please list those here:

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# PERSONALITY

One common way of describing personality is to plot ourselves on four scales.

Please read the short descriptions that follow and then mark where you see yourself on these scales:

Introverted	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Extraverted
Controlled	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Spontaneous
Intuitive	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Sensing
Thinking	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Feeling

## How we relate to others:

**Introverted:** Persons who are introverted enjoy being with other people, but they find that being with others drains emotional energy from them, and they have to have a certain amount of solitude to “recharge.”

**Extraverted:** Persons who are extraverted receive emotional energy from being with other people, and they find that solitude drains energy from them. Extraverts can enjoy solitude, but they have to have time with other people to “recharge.”

## How we structure our lives:

**Controlled:** “Controlled” persons tend to prefer outcomes to processes. They’re interested in structure, in meeting deadlines, in closure, in moving on to the next thing. Controlled persons tend to like checklists and plans.

**Spontaneous:** “Spontaneous” persons tend to prefer processes to outcomes. They’re more interested in “going with the flow” and “seeing what happens” than in making schedules and meeting deadlines. Spontaneous persons tend to lose their checklists and plans, but this doesn’t bother them!

## How we take in information:

**Intuitive:** Persons whose preference is for intuition often describe themselves as “innovative.” Intuitive persons like metaphor and imagery, and often understand complex ideas rather suddenly, “as a whole,” without knowing exactly how they know. Intuitive persons tend to be more interested in what “might be” than in what “is.”

**Sensing:** Persons whose preference is for sensing often describe themselves as “practical.” Sensing persons gather information bit by bit, and they focus on facts, data, and experience. Sensing persons tend to be more interested in what “is” than in what “might be.”

## How we make decisions:

**Thinking:** Persons who make decisions based on “thinking” focus more on facts, data, rules, and procedures than on how decisions will affect people.

**Feeling:** Persons who make decisions based on “feeling” focus more on how a decision will affect other people than on facts, data, rules, and procedures.

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# EXPERIENCES

This is how and when I became a Christian and something of what my relationship with Jesus means and has meant to me over the years:

Some of my most meaningful spiritual experiences have included:

Because of some of my own experiences, I believe I could relate to and encourage someone who is going through . . . .

My formal education has been as follows:

My favorite subjects in school have been:

Some of the seminars and special training I've had include:

In the past, I've served in churches in these ways:

Church/location	Position(s) of Service	Years Involved

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## SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS

If you have any of the following special qualifications, please mark the appropriate boxes:

	<b>Certified Teacher</b> (please specify)
	<b>Commercial Driver's License</b> (please specify)
	<b>Construction Professional</b> (please specify)
	<b>Law Enforcement Professional</b> (please specify)
	<b>Legal Professional</b> (please specify)
	<b>Medical Professional</b> (please specify)
	<b>Ministry Professional</b> (please specify)
	<b>Passed Background Check for Working with Children</b>
	<b>Passed Van Driver Course</b>
	<b>Other</b> (please specify)

**THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!**

**(The only thing left to do is to be sure this gets back to the church office!)**

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