

S.H.A.P.E. – PERSONALITY & EXPERIENCE

ABOUT THIS WEEK

As we conclude our SHAPE series, your group will consider how their personality and experiences help to give focus to serving God's kingdom.

ITEMS NEEDED

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Prayer Journal | <input type="checkbox"/> Bibles | <input type="checkbox"/> Pens | <input type="checkbox"/> Paper for Each Person |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|

CHECKLIST BEFORE YOUR GROUP ARRIVES

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pray for the meeting | <input type="checkbox"/> Print & Read Discussion Guide | <input type="checkbox"/> Clean meeting room |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clean bathroom | <input type="checkbox"/> Refreshments (Optional) | <input type="checkbox"/> Front door cracked open |

OPENING (5-10 MIN)

Briefly welcome everyone and say: We're going to look at how our personality and experiences may be used to serve the kingdom of God. To begin let's go around the group and answer:

WHICH TV CHARACTER BEST REFLECTS YOUR PERSONALITY?

OPENING PRAYER (1 MIN)

Say: But first, can someone start us off with a brief prayer for our time together?

GOD USES OUR PERSONALITY (15 - 20 MIN)

After the prayer say: To begin our conversation today we want to look at a Bible passage about personality.

CAN SOMEONE READ ALOUD FOR US FROM LUKE 10:38-42?

After the passage has been read ask:

HOW DOES THIS TEXT SHOW DIFFERENT PERSONALITIES?

DO YOU RELATE TO MARY'S OR MARTHA'S PERSONALITY BETTER?

LET'S GO IN A CIRCLE AND HAVE EACH OF US DESCRIBE YOUR PERSONALITY STYLE BY CHOOSING ONE OR THE OTHER:

**INTROVERT OR EXTROVERT
COMPETITIVE OR COOPERATIVE**

**ROUTINE OR VARIETY
THINKER OF FEELER**

After a discussion, ask: There is no right and wrong for your personality. But there are things that may be right or wrong for your personality.

WHAT TYPE OF OCCUPATION OR CHURCH MINISTRY WOULD BE HARD FOR YOUR PERSONALITY AND WHAT TYPE IS PERFECT FOR YOUR PERSONALITY?

GOD USES OUR EXPERIENCE (20 - 25 MIN)

Say: Our personality reflects how God has made us each individual in our own way. We're going to take some time now to look at how God can and wants to use us even if we are "broken" people.

LET'S GO IN A CIRCLE AGAIN, WHAT'S YOUR EXPERIENCE FOR: OCCUPATION EDUCATION MINISTRY

IF YOU'RE COMFORTABLE SHARING, WHAT'S A UNIQUE RELATIONAL OR PERSONAL EXPERIENCE YOU HAVE, WHETHER POSITIVE OR PAINFUL?

Host Tip: Again, be patient as people process how to describe this. Everyone in the group may not feel comfortable sharing a response to this; allow them to "pass" if that's the case. Also, you may have to begin the conversation by giving your response first.

After everyone has had an opportunity to respond say: Now, we are going to take a look at three people in the Bible who experienced different kinds of "brokenness" and how God uses them to serve his kingdom purpose. We are going to look at:

HEBREWS 11:31 GENESIS 37:3-4 ACTS 9:10-16

WHAT DO RAHAB, JOSEPH, AND SAUL HAVE IN COMMON IN THESE PASSAGES?

WHY DOES GOD USE THESE "BROKEN" PEOPLE FOR HIS KINGDOM PURPOSE?

Say: We have talked about how God can use even "broken" people. And the same is true for us. Let's wrap up our discussion and this series by asking a summarizing question—

DURING THIS SERIES, HOW HAS GOD BEEN SPEAKING TO YOU SPECIFICALLY ABOUT SERVING IN THE CHURCH OR IN YOUR COMMUNITY WITH YOUR SHAPE?

ANNOUNCEMENTS TO SHARE (2-3 MIN)

Say: Before we get to our prayer requests, just a few quick announcements—

- Wednesday, February 7, Prayer Night
- Wednesday, February 14, Ash Wednesday Worship
- Saturday, February 24, Stephen Ministry Open House

CLOSING PRAYER (7-10 MIN)

Say: Let's each include prayer for discovering the Lord's plan for using our personality style and life experiences to serve his "kingdom purposes". Are there any other prayer requests today? [Please write them in your group prayer journal.]

After prayer requests have been taken, ask if someone would like to close the group in prayer. If not, Host, close the group in prayer.