

Living Life With Purpose & Passion All Preaching Pastors September 27/28, 2014

## **Introduction to SHAPE**

One of the greatest discoveries you will make in life is finding and fulfilling your God-given purpose. Understanding who God made you to be will help you discover what He's called you to do. Over these next several weeks, we will be taking a closer look at the five factors that God uses to help prepare and equip each of us for our purpose in life:

- S Spiritual Gifts
- H Heart
- A Abilities
- P Personality
- E Experiences

We all know what it is like to be "out of shape." Too often we find ourselves out of breath with the least bit of exertion. Typically we resolve to "get back into shape." Such resolutions are good, and we make them so we can get more out of life, so we can "enjoy playing the game", so we can compete more effectively in the "Race of life." Even more important than our physical shape, however, is our spiritual shape, because...

## What God made me to BE (my shape) Determines What God intends me to DO (my ministry)

## **Small Group Questions**

- 1. Share with the group some of the people that through the years have made a significant contribution in helping you grow as a Christian.
- 2. If we don't fulfill the ministry that God has given us, how does this affect the rest of the Christian family (the church)?
- 3. What are the barriers to ministry that people often face?
- 4. In your opinion, are these barriers more real or imagined?
- 5. How would you respond to the following statements:
  "The church doesn't exist for you, you exist for the church!"
  "The church doesn't exist for you, the church exists for the world."
  (John 13:34-35)

6.	If you had absolute confidence you could get "in SHAPE" to contribute to "people meeting Christ and living as His disciples" would you be excited about moving forward? Explain how this might change you.