



NBJ 103

**Nothing But Jesus
In My Ministry**

PARTICIPATION GUIDE

Welcome

We are convinced that you must first be committed to membership in a church family and committed to the habits for spiritual growth before you are ready for ministry. Membership and Spiritual Maturity are the foundations for ministry. In NBJ 103: Nothing But Jesus in My Ministry, you will discover your gifts, passions, and experiences so you can flourish in your role to reach all people with Nothing But Jesus!

Table of Contents

SESSION ONE: SERVING AT REACH	3
The Goal of Our Ministry at Reach	4
SESSION TWO: THE PRIORITY OF MINISTRY	6
Your Significance	7
SESSION THREE: DISCOVERING YOUR GIFTS	10
Spiritual Gifts Survey	13
Discovering Your Heart	20
Discovering Your Abilities	24
Discovering Your Experiences	27
ANSWER KEY	33

SESSION
ONE

Serving at Reach

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

What the Bible Says about Ministry

DEFINITION

Greek word "diakonos" = "to serve"

"MINISTRY IS USING WHATEVER GOD
HAS GIVEN ME TO SERVE HIM AND THE
NEEDS OF OTHERS."

THE GOAL OF OUR MINISTRY AT REACH

God wants to use us to _____.

It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

EPHESIANS 4:11-13 (NIV)

There are different kinds of service in the church, but it is the same Lord we are serving. [The Holy Spirit displays God's power through each of us as a means of helping the entire church.] All of you together are the one Body of Christ and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:5, 7, 27 (NLT/TLB)

How We Achieve Our Goal

We seek to achieve the goal of our ministry by fulfilling these five purposes of the church:

1. To _____ God's Word (Evangelism)

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up...

EPHESIANS 4:11-12 (NIV)

2. To _____ God's Family (Fellowship)

Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

GALATIANS 6:2 (ESV)

So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.

GALATIANS 6:10 (ESV)

3. To _____ God's Presence (Worship)

For it is written: "Worship the Lord your God, and serve him only."

MATTHEW 4:10 (NIV)

But the time is coming—indeed it's here now—when true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and in truth. The Father is looking for those who will worship him that way. For God is Spirit, so those who worship him must worship in spirit and in truth.

JOHN 4:23-24 (NLT)

4. To _____ God's People (Discipleship)

Therefore let us move beyond the elementary teachings about Christ and be taken forward to maturity.

HEBREWS 6:1 (NIV)

Rather, you must grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

2 PETER 3:18 (NLT)

5. To _____ God's Love (Ministry)

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

JOHN 13:35 (NIV)

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:27 (NIV)

**SESSION
TWO**

The Priority of Ministry

WHY SHOULD I BE INTERESTED?

YOUR SIGNIFICANCE

1. I've been _____ for ministry.

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

EPHESIANS 2:10 (NIV)

2. I've been _____ for ministry.

It is he who saved us and chose us for his holy work not because we deserved it but because that was his plan long before the world began.

2 TIMOTHY 1:9 (TLB)

"SAVED TO SERVE"

3. I've been _____ into ministry.

God in his grace chose me even before I was born, and called me to serve him.

GALATIANS 1:15 (GNT)

I urge you to live a life worthy of the calling you have received.

EPHESIANS 4:1 (NIV)

But you are not like that, for you have been chosen by God himself—you are priests of the King, you are holy and pure, you are God's very own—all this so that you may show to others how God called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light. Once you were less than nothing; now you are God's own. Once you knew very little of God's kindness; now your very lives have been changed by it.

1 PETER 2:9-10 (TLB)

You will serve as holy priests.

1 PETER 2:5 (GNT)

"I AM NOT WHO I THINK I AM.

I AM NOT WHO YOU THINK I AM. BUT I

REALLY AM WHO GOD SAYS I AM!"

**“A LIFE CHANGING TRUTH – MY
PRIMARY IDENTITY: I AM A MINISTER
OF JESUS CHRIST!”**

4. I've been _____ for ministry.

God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other, passing on to others God's many kinds of blessings.

1 PETER 4:10 (TLB)

5. I've been _____ for ministry.

“All authority in heaven and earth has been given to me. Therefore, go and make disciples.”

MATTHEW 28:18-19 (NIV)

6. I'm _____ to minister.

“Your attitude must be like my own, for I, the Messiah, did not come to be served, but to serve.”

MATTHEW 20:28 (TLB)

And say to Archippus, “Take heed to the ministry which you have received in the Lord, that you may fulfill it.”

COLOSSIANS 4:17 (NKJV)

7. I'm to be _____ for ministry.

[God] gave . . . pastors and teachers to prepare God's people for works of service so that the body of Christ may be built up.

EPHESIANS 4:11-12 (NIV)

8. The body of Christ _____ my ministry.

All of you together are the one body of Christ and each of you is a separate and necessary part of it.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:27 (TLB)

Ministry always functions in the context of the _____ family.

When [Jesus] saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said, “The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. Ask the Lord . . . to send out workers into his harvest field.”

MATTHEW 9:36-38 (NIV)

9. I am _____ for my ministry.

So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.

ROMANS 14:12 (NIV84)

“THE PARABLE OF THE TALENTS”

MATTHEW 25:14–30

10. I will be _____ for my ministry!

Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward.

COLOSSIANS 3:23, 24 (NIV84)

“His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’ ”

MATTHEW 25:23 (NIV)

**SESSION
THREE**

Discovering Your Gifts

**HOW YOU ARE UNIQUELY MADE
TO USE YOUR GIFTS**

DISCOVERING YOUR SPIRITUAL GIFTS

What Does the Bible Say about Spiritual Gifts?

Now about spiritual gifts . . . I do not want you to be ignorant.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:1 (NIV)

SPIRITUAL GIFT

A special ability, given by the Holy Spirit to every believer at their conversion, to be used to minister to others and therefore build up the body of Christ.

The Purpose of Spiritual Gifts

1. **Not for my benefit, but _____.**

Each one, as a good manager of God's different gifts, must use for the good of others the spiritual gift he has received from God.

1 PETER 4:10 (GNT)

The Holy Spirit displays God's power through each of us as a means of helping the entire church.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:7 (TLB)

2. **To produce _____ and _____ in your church family.**

It was he who "gave gifts to people" ... to build up the Body of Christ. And so we shall all come together to that oneness in our faith and ... become mature... Then we shall no longer be children, carried by the waves and blown about by every shifting wind.

EPHESIANS 4:11-14 (GNT)

Ten Truths about Spiritual Gifts

1. **Only _____ have spiritual gifts.**

Whoever does not have the Spirit cannot receive the gifts that come from God's Spirit. Such a person really does not understand them, and they seem to be nonsense, because their value can be judged only on a spiritual basis.

1 CORINTHIANS 2:14 (GNT)

2. **Every Christian has at least _____ gift.**

I wish that all of you were as I am. But each of you has your own gift from God; one has this gift, another has that.

1 CORINTHIANS 7:7 (NIV)

3. No one receives _____ the gifts.

Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. And God has placed in the church first of all apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, of helping, of guidance, and of different kinds of tongues.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:27-28 (NIV)

4. No single gift is given to _____.

Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all have gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret?

1 CORINTHIANS 12:29-30 (NIV)

5. You can't _____ a spiritual gift.

But to each one of us grace has been given as Christ apportioned it.

EPHESIANS 4:7 (NIV)

6. The _____ decides what gifts I get.

All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:11 (NIV)

7. The gifts I'm given are _____.

For God's gifts and his call are irrevocable.

ROMANS 11:29 (NIV)

8. I am to _____ the gifts that God gives me.

Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you, [that special endowment] which was intentionally bestowed on you [by the Holy Spirit] through prophetic utterance when the elders laid their hands on you [at your ordination].

1 TIMOTHY 4:14 (AMP)

9. It's a sin to _____ the gifts God gives me.

Now the most important thing about a servant is that he does just what his master tells him to.

1 CORINTHIANS 4:2 (TLB)

10. Using my gifts _____ God and _____ me.

By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples.

Discover Your Spiritual Gifts!

By Gene Wilkes

Ken Hemphill defines a spiritual gift as “an individual manifestation of grace from the Father that enables you to serve Him and thus play a vital role in His plan for the redemption of the world.”¹ Peter Wagner defines a spiritual gift as “a special attribute given by the Holy Spirit to every member of the Body of Christ according to God’s grace for use within the context of the Body.”² I like to use this definition:

A spiritual gift is an expression of the Holy Spirit in the life of believers which empowers them to serve the body of Christ, the church.

Romans 12:6-8; 1 Corinthians 12:8-10, 28-30; Ephesians 4:11; and 1 Peter 4:9-11 contain representative lists of gifts and roles God has given to the church. A definition of these gifts follows.³

- **Leadership**—Leadership aids the body by leading and directing members to accomplish the goals and purposes of the church. Leadership motivates people to work together in unity toward common goals (Rom. 12:8).
- **Administration**—Persons with the gift of administration lead the body by steering others to remain on task. Administration enables the body to organize according to God-given purposes and long-term goals (1 Cor. 12:28).
- **Teaching**—Teaching is instructing members in the truths and doctrines of God’s Word for the purposes of building up, unifying, and maturing the body (1 Cor. 12:28; Rom. 12:7; Eph. 4:11).
- **Knowledge**—The gift of knowledge manifests itself in teaching and training in discipleship. It is the God-given ability to learn, know, and explain the precious truths of God’s Word. A word of knowledge is a Spirit-revealed truth (1 Cor. 12:28).
- **Wisdom**—Wisdom is the gift that discerns the work of the Holy Spirit in the body and applies His teachings and actions to the needs of the body (1 Cor. 12:28).
- **Prophecy**—The gift of prophecy is proclaiming the Word of God boldly. This builds up the body and leads to conviction of sin. Prophecy manifests itself in preaching and teaching (1 Cor. 12:10; Rom. 12:6).
- **Discernment**—Discernment aids the body by recognizing the true intentions of those within or related to the body. Discernment tests the message and actions of others for the protection and well-being of the body (1 Cor. 12:10).
- **Exhortation**—Possessors of this gift encourage members to be involved in and enthusiastic about the work of the Lord. Members with this gift are good counselors and motivate others to service. Exhortation exhibits itself in preaching, teaching, and ministry (Rom. 12:8).
- **Shepherding**—The gift of shepherding is manifested in persons who look out for the spiritual welfare of others. Although pastors, like shepherds, do care for members of the church, this gift is not limited to a pastor or staff member (Eph. 4:11).
- **Faith**—Faith trusts God to work beyond the human capabilities of the people. Believers with this gift encourage others to trust in God in the face of apparently insurmountable odds (1 Cor. 12:9).

- **Evangelism**—God gifts his church with evangelists to lead others to Christ effectively and enthusiastically. This gift builds up the body by adding new members to its fellowship (Eph. 4:11).
- **Apostleship**—The church sends apostles from the body to plant churches or be missionaries. Apostles motivate the body to look beyond its walls in order to carry out the Great Commission (1 Cor. 12:28; Eph. 4:11).
- **Service/Helps**—Those with the gift of service/helps recognize practical needs in the body and joyfully give assistance to meeting those needs. Christians with this gift do not mind working behind the scenes (1 Cor. 12:28; Rom. 12:7).
- **Mercy**—Cheerful acts of compassion characterize those with the gift of mercy. Persons with this gift aid the body by empathizing with hurting members. They keep the body healthy and unified by keeping others aware of the needs within the church (Rom. 12:8).
- **Giving**—Members with the gift of giving give freely and joyfully to the work and mission of the body. Cheerfulness and liberality are characteristics of individuals with this gift (Rom. 12:8).
- **Hospitality**—Those with this gift have the ability to make visitors, guests, and strangers feel at ease. They often use their home to entertain guests. Persons with this gift integrate new members into the body (1 Pet. 4:9).

God has gifted you with an expression of His Holy Spirit to support His vision and mission of the church. It is a worldwide vision to reach all people with the gospel of Christ. As a servant leader, God desires that you know how He has gifted you. This will lead you to where He would have you serve as part of His vision and mission for the church.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS SURVEY

DIRECTIONS

This is not a test, so there are no wrong answers. The *Spiritual Gifts Survey* consists of 80 statements. Some items reflect concrete actions; other items are descriptive traits; and still others are statements of belief.

- Select the one response you feel best characterizes yourself and place that number in the blank provided. Record your answer in the blank beside each item.
- Do not spend too much time on any one item. Remember, it is not a test. Usually your immediate response is best.
- Please give an answer for each item. Do not skip any items.
- Do not ask others how they are answering or how they think you should answer.
- Work at your own pace.

Your response choices are:

- 5—Highly characteristic of me/definitely true for me
- 4—Most of the time this would describe me/be true for me
- 3—Frequently characteristic of me/true for me—about 50 percent of the time
- 2—Occasionally characteristic of me/true for me—about 25 percent of the time
- 1—Not at all characteristic of me/definitely untrue for me

-
- _____ 1. I have the ability to organize ideas, resources, time, and people effectively.
 - _____ 2. I am willing to study and prepare for the task of teaching.
 - _____ 3. I am able to relate the truths of God to specific situations.
 - _____ 4. I have a God-given ability to help others grow in their faith.
 - _____ 5. I possess a special ability to communicate the truth of salvation.
 - _____ 6. I have the ability to make critical decisions when necessary.
 - _____ 7. I am sensitive to the hurts of people.
 - _____ 8. I experience joy in meeting needs through sharing possessions.
 - _____ 9. I enjoy studying.
 - _____ 10. I have delivered God's message of warning and judgment.
 - _____ 11. I am able to sense the true motivation of persons and movements.
 - _____ 12. I have a special ability to trust God in difficult situations.
 - _____ 13. I have a strong desire to contribute to the establishment of new churches.
 - _____ 14. I take action to meet physical and practical needs rather than merely talking about or planning to help.
 - _____ 15. I enjoy entertaining guests in my home.
 - _____ 16. I can adapt my guidance to fit the maturity of those working with me.
 - _____ 17. I can delegate and assign meaningful work.
 - _____ 18. I have an ability and desire to teach.
 - _____ 19. I am usually able to analyze a situation correctly.
 - _____ 20. I have a natural tendency to encourage others.
 - _____ 21. I am willing to take the initiative in helping other Christians grow in their faith.
 - _____ 22. I have an acute awareness of the emotions of other people, such as loneliness, pain, fear, and anger.
 - _____ 23. I am a cheerful giver.
 - _____ 24. I spend time digging into facts.
 - _____ 25. I feel that I have a message from God to deliver to others.
 - _____ 26. I can recognize when a person is genuine/honest.
 - _____ 27. I am a person of vision (a clear mental portrait of a preferable future given by God). I am able to communicate vision in such a way that others commit to making the vision a reality.
 - _____ 28. I am willing to yield to God's will rather than question and waver.
 - _____ 29. I would like to be more active in getting the gospel to people in other lands.
 - _____ 30. It makes me happy to do things for people in need.
 - _____ 31. I am successful in getting a group to do its work joyfully.
 - _____ 32. I am able to make strangers feel at ease.
 - _____ 33. I have the ability to plan learning approaches.
 - _____ 34. I can identify those who need encouragement.
 - _____ 35. I have trained Christians to be more obedient disciples of Christ.
 - _____ 36. I am willing to do whatever it takes to see others come to Christ.
 - _____ 37. I am attracted to people who are hurting.
 - _____ 38. I am a generous giver.
 - _____ 39. I am able to discover new truths.
 - _____ 40. I have spiritual insights from Scripture concerning issues and people that compel me to speak out.
 - _____ 41. I can sense when a person is acting in accord with God's will.
 - _____ 42. I can trust in God even when things look dark.
 - _____ 43. I can determine where God wants a group to go and help it get there.
 - _____ 44. I have a strong desire to take the gospel to places where it has never been heard.
 - _____ 45. I enjoy reaching out to new people in my church and community.
 - _____ 46. I am sensitive to the needs of people.
 - _____ 47. I have been able to make effective and efficient plans for accomplishing the goals of a group.
 - _____ 48. I often am consulted when fellow Christians are struggling to make difficult decisions.
 - _____ 49. I think about how I can comfort and encourage others in my congregation.
 - _____ 50. I am able to give spiritual direction to others.
 - _____ 51. I am able to present the gospel to lost persons in such a way that they accept the Lord and His salvation.
 - _____ 52. I possess an unusual capacity to understand the feelings of those in distress.

- _____ 53. I have a strong sense of stewardship based on the recognition that God owns all things.
- _____ 54. I have delivered to other persons messages that have come directly from God.
- _____ 55. I can sense when a person is acting under God’s leadership.
- _____ 56. I try to be in God’s will continually and be available for His use.
- _____ 57. I feel that I should take the gospel to people who have different beliefs from me.
- _____ 58. I have an acute awareness of the physical needs of others.
- _____ 59. I am skilled in setting forth positive and precise steps of action.
- _____ 60. I like to meet visitors at church and make them feel welcome.
- _____ 61. I explain Scripture in such a way that others understand it.
- _____ 62. I can usually see spiritual solutions to problems.
- _____ 63. I welcome opportunities to help people who need comfort, consolation, encouragement, and counseling.
- _____ 64. I feel at ease in sharing Christ with nonbelievers.
- _____ 65. I can influence others to perform to their highest God-given potential.
- _____ 66. I recognize the signs of stress and distress in others.
- _____ 67. I desire to give generously and unpretentiously to worthwhile projects and ministries.
- _____ 68. I can organize facts into meaningful relationships.
- _____ 69. God gives me messages to deliver to His people.
- _____ 70. I am able to sense whether people are being honest when they tell of their religious experiences.
- _____ 71. I enjoy presenting the gospel to persons of other cultures and backgrounds.
- _____ 72. I enjoy doing little things that help people.
- _____ 73. I can give a clear, uncomplicated presentation.
- _____ 74. I have been able to apply biblical truth to the specific needs of my church.
- _____ 75. God has used me to encourage others to live Christlike lives.
- _____ 76. I have sensed the need to help other people become more effective in their ministries.
- _____ 77. I like to talk about Jesus to those who do not know Him.
- _____ 78. I have the ability to make strangers feel comfortable in my home.
- _____ 79. I have a wide range of study resources and know how to secure information.
- _____ 80. I feel assured that a situation will change for the glory of God even when the situation seem impossible.

SCORING YOUR SURVEY

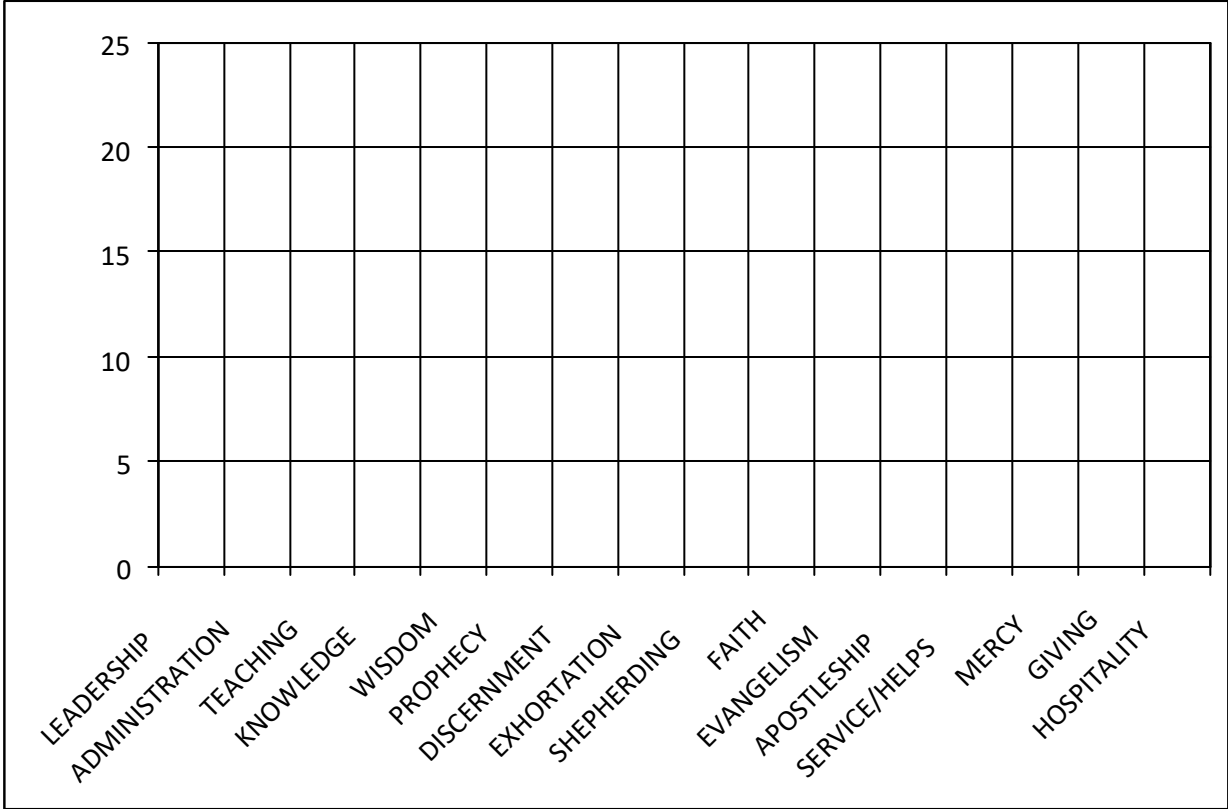
Follow these directions to figure your score for each spiritual gift.

1. Place in each box your numerical response (1-5) to the item number which is indicated below the box.
2. For each gift, add the numbers in the boxes and put the total in the TOTAL box.

LEADERSHIP	+	+	+	+	=	
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	TOTAL
	Item 6	Item 16	Item 27	Item 43	Item 65	
ADMINISTRATION	+	+	+	+	=	
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	TOTAL
	Item 1	Item 17	Item 31	Item 47	Item 59	
TEACHING	+	+	+	+	=	
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	TOTAL
	Item 2	Item 18	Item 33	Item 61	Item 73	
KNOWLEDGE	+	+	+	+	=	
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	TOTAL
	Item 9	Item 24	Item 39	Item 68	Item 79	

WISDOM	+	+	+	+	=	TOTAL
Item 3		Item 19	Item 48	Item 62	Item 74	
PROPHECY	+	+	+	+	=	TOTAL
Item 10		Item 25	Item 40	Item 54	Item 69	
DISCERNMENT	+	+	+	+	=	TOTAL
Item 11		Item 26	Item 41	Item 55	Item 70	
EXHORTATION	+	+	+	+	=	TOTAL
Item 20		Item 34	Item 49	Item 63	Item 75	
SHEPHERDING	+	+	+	+	=	TOTAL
Item 4		Item 21	Item 35	Item 50	Item 76	
FAITH	+	+	+	+	=	TOTAL
Item 12		Item 28	Item 42	Item 56	Item 80	
EVANGELISM	+	+	+	+	=	TOTAL
Item 5		Item 36	Item 51	Item 64	Item 77	
APOSTLESHIP	+	+	+	+	=	TOTAL
Item 13		Item 29	Item 44	Item 57	Item 71	
SERVICE/HELPS	+	+	+	+	=	TOTAL
Item 14		Item 30	Item 46	Item 58	Item 72	
MERCY	+	+	+	+	=	TOTAL
Item 7		Item 22	Item 37	Item 52	Item 66	
GIVING	+	+	+	+	=	TOTAL
Item 8		Item 23	Item 38	Item 53	Item 67	
HOSPITALITY	+	+	+	+	=	TOTAL
Item 15		Item 32	Item 45	Item 60	Item 78	

GRAPHING YOUR PROFILE



1. For each gift place a mark across the bar at the point that corresponds to your TOTAL for that gift.
2. For each gift shade the bar below the mark that you have drawn.
3. The resultant graph gives a picture of your gifts. Gifts for which the bars are tall are the ones in which you appear to be strongest. Gifts for which the bars are very short are the ones in which you appear not to be strong.

Now that you have completed the survey, thoughtfully answer the following questions.

The gifts I have begun to discover in my life are:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

- After prayer and worship, I am beginning to sense that God wants me to use my spiritual gifts to serve Christ's body by _____.
- I am not sure yet how God wants me to use my gifts to serve others. But I am committed to prayer and worship, seeking wisdom and opportunities to use the gifts I have received from God.

Ask God to help you know how He has gifted you for service and how you can begin to use this gift in ministry to others

DISCOVERING YOUR HEART

Monitoring My Heartbeat

My heart is the _____me!

Physiologically, each of us has a unique heartbeat. Each person has a slightly different pattern. Likewise, God has given each of us a unique emotional "heartbeat" that races when we encounter activities, subjects, or circumstances that interest us. We instinctively feel deeply about some things and not about others.

The dictionary defines the "heart" as:

1. "The organ that pumps your blood"
2. "Your emotional constitution or disposition"
3. "The vital force or driving impulse"

The Bible uses the term "heart" to represent the center of your motivation, desires, and inclinations.

Delight yourself in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.

PSALM 37:4 (ESV)

My Heart Determines . . .

1. Why I _____the things I do.

"The mouth speaks what the heart is full of."

MATTHEW 12:34 (GNT)

2. Why I _____the way I do.

The Word that God speaks. . . exposes the very thoughts and motives of a man's heart.

HEBREWS 4:12 (PHILLIPS)

3. Why I _____the way I do.

Guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.

PROVERBS 4:23 (NIV)

Why Has God Given Each Person a Unique Heartbeat?

God had a purpose in giving you your inborn interests. In fact, your emotional heartbeat reveals a very important key to understanding God's design and intention for your life.

For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

PHILIPPIANS 2:13 (NIV)

God is the author of all that is written on your heart, and he longs very much to use your passions and interests to accomplish his will.

You can do God's will and serve God's purpose by letting your heartbeat _____
you for ministry.

I run in the path of your commands, for you have set my heart free.

PSALM 119:32 (NIV)

The Bible makes very clear that God designed your heart, but you make the choice to use it for good or evil, for selfish purposes or for service.

You may . . .

“. . . HARBOR BITTER ENVY AND
SELFISH AMBITION IN YOUR
HEARTS.”

JAMES 3:14 (NIV)

O R

You may . . .

“. . . DO THE WILL OF GOD WITH
ALL YOUR HEART.”

EPHESIANS 6:6 (NLT)

DISCOVERING YOUR HEARTBEAT

Please consider the three ways in which your heart or passion is directed:

- passion for a role (what you like to do)
- passion for specific people (whom you like to help)
- passion for a cause (what you would like to see changed)

MY HEART FOR A ROLE: WHAT I LOVE TO DO . . .

INSTRUCTIONS: Check the following **ROLES** you enjoy fulfilling and that best describe you. If none of the words on the list fit you, feel free to add your own on the “Other” line provided.

- DESIGN/DEVELOP:** Love to make something out of nothing. I enjoy getting something started from scratch.
- PIONEER:** Love to test and try out new concepts. I am not afraid to risk failure.
- ORGANIZE:** Love to bring order out of chaos. I enjoy organizing something that is already started.
- OPERATE/MAINTAIN:** Love to efficiently maintain something that is already organized.
- SERVE/HELP:** Love to assist others in their responsibilities. I enjoy helping others succeed.
- ACQUIRE/POSSESS:** Love to shop, collect, or obtain things. I enjoy getting the highest quality for the best price.
- EXCEL:** Love to be the best and make my team the best. I enjoy setting and attaining the highest standard.
- INFLUENCE:** Love to convert people to my way of thinking. I enjoy shaping the attitudes and behavior of others.
- PERFORM:** Love to be on stage and receive the attention of others. I enjoy being in the limelight.
- IMPROVE:** Love to make things better. I enjoy taking something that someone else has designed or started and improve it.
- REPAIR:** Love to fix what is broken or change what is out of date.
- LEAD/BE IN CHARGE:** Love to lead the way, oversee, and supervise. I enjoy determining how things will be done.
- PERSEVERE:** Love to see things to completion. I enjoy persisting at something until it is finished.
- FOLLOW THE RULES:** Love to operate by policies and procedures. I enjoy meeting the expectations of an organization or boss.
- PREVAIL:** Love to fight for what is right and oppose what is wrong. I enjoy overcoming injustice.
- OTHER:** _____

MY PASSION FOR PEOPLE: HOW DO I LOVE TO SERVE?

INSTRUCTIONS: Check the following **PEOPLE**, listed by age and affinity group, whom you feel most drawn to serve. If none of the words on the list fit, feel free to add your own on the “Other” line provided.

- | AGE | AFFINITY |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> College/Young Adult | <input type="checkbox"/> Athletes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Elementary Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Business Professionals |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High School | <input type="checkbox"/> Couples |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Infants/Babies | <input type="checkbox"/> ESL |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jr. High Students | <input type="checkbox"/> Families |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Older Adults 60+ | <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing Impaired |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Preschool Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Men |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Toddlers | <input type="checkbox"/> Musicians |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Young Married | <input type="checkbox"/> People Who Are Hurting |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Single Parents |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Singles |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Women |

MY PASSION FOR A CAUSE: WHAT I GET EXCITED ABOUT . . .

INSTRUCTIONS: Check the following **CAUSES** you feel led to champion! If none of the words on the list fit you, feel free to add your own on the “Other” line provided.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abuse/Violence | <input type="checkbox"/> Health and/or Fitness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Assisting the Poor | <input type="checkbox"/> Helping People Get Involved in Ministry |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletics | <input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness |
| <input type="checkbox"/> At-Risk Children | <input type="checkbox"/> Illness and/or Injury |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blindness | <input type="checkbox"/> International/Global Affairs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business and the Economy | <input type="checkbox"/> Law and/or Justice System |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caring for the Sick | <input type="checkbox"/> Marriage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community/Neighborhood Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Media and/or Entertainment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Compulsive Behavior Recovery | <input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Deafness | <input type="checkbox"/> Parenting/Family |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Disabilities and/or Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Planting Churches |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce Recovery | <input type="checkbox"/> Policy and/or Politics |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drug and Alcohol Recovery | <input type="checkbox"/> Race |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Educating the Next Generation | <input type="checkbox"/> Relief Efforts |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Regional, State, Federal Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Equipping Leaders | <input type="checkbox"/> Sanctity of Life |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ethics | <input type="checkbox"/> Science and/or Technology |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Evangelism | <input type="checkbox"/> Sexuality and/or Gender Issues |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fellowship | <input type="checkbox"/> World Evangelization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Worship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> HIV/AIDS | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

DISCOVERING YOUR ABILITIES

Your abilities are the natural talents with which you were born. All of our abilities come from God. The Bible says, *“God has given each of us the ability to do certain things well”* (Romans 12:6, NLT). Since your natural abilities are from God, they are just as important as your spiritual gifts. The only difference is that you were given them at birth.

There are different abilities to perform service.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:6 (GNT)

One of the most common reasons 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. The key is matching your abilities with the right ministry!

Six Misconceptions about Your Abilities

1. MYTH: Most people only have a few abilities.

The truth is that most people possess between five hundred and seven hundred specific skills!

2. MYTH: People aren’t born with skills. All skills must be learned through experience.

This simply is not true. There are a number of talents, which seem to be inborn, or are developed very early in infancy. When people say, “He just seems to have a natural talent for it,” it’s probably true!

3. MYTH: You will be very aware of the abilities you possess.

Again, this is not true. You are probably using a number of talents or skills of which you are not even aware! You need some process of skill identification.

4. MYTH: You must have natural talent to develop skills.

The truth is we can learn to do a number of things well without possessing natural talent. Need or desire motivates most of our learning.

5. MYTH: Skills, which must be learned, are learned primarily in the classroom.

Actually, some of your most basic skills were learned at home, “on the street,” or somewhere else outside the classroom.

6. MYTH: Skills that I use at work are only usable in that environment. I can’t use them in ministry.

We hope by the end of this class, you’ll see the fallacy of this idea. Be creative!

DISCOVER YOUR ABILITIES

INSTRUCTIONS: Check the Abilities that best describe you below. If none of the words on the list fit you, feel free to add your own on the “Other” line.

- Entertaining ability** (to perform, act, speak, sing)
- Recruiting ability** (to enlist and motivate people to get involved)
- Interview ability** (to discover what others are really like)
- Researching ability** (to read, gather information, collect data)
- Artistic ability** (to create or design)
- Evaluating ability** (to analyze data and draw conclusions)
- Planning ability** (to strategize, design, and organize programs and events)
- Managing ability** (to supervise people to accomplish a task or event and coordinate the details)
- Counseling/Encouraging ability** (to listen, encourage, and guide with sensitivity)
- Athletic ability** (to coach or participate in a sport)
- Teaching ability** (to explain, train, demonstrate, and tutor)
- Writing ability** (to write articles, letters, books)
- Linguistic ability** (to speak and write in one or more of the following language(s))
 - _____ Write Read
 - _____ Write Read
- Editing ability** (to proofread or rewrite)
- Promoting ability** (to advertise or promote events and activities)
- Repairing ability** (to fix, restore, maintain)
- Hobby-related ability** (to work with your hands)
 - Scrapbooking
 - Knitting/Quilting/Sewing
 - Photography
 - Cooking
 - Gardening
 - Social Networking
 - Fitness/Exercise
 - Other: _____
- Feeding ability** (to create meals for large or small groups)
- Recall ability** (to remember or recall names and faces)
- Mechanical operating ability** (to operate equipment, tools, or machinery)

- Resourceful ability** (to search out and find inexpensive materials or resources needed)
- Counting ability** (to work with numbers, data, or money)
- Classifying ability** (to systematize and file books, data, records, and materials so they can be retrieved easily)
- Public Relations ability** (to handle complaints and unhappy people with care and maturity.
- Welcoming ability** (to convey warmth, develop rapport, and make others feel comfortable)
- Musical ability** (to sing or play a musical instrument)
- Landscaping ability** (to do gardening and work with plants)
- Decorating ability** (to beautify a setting for a special event)
- Business Administration ability** (to work with office organizational tasks such as typing, filing, transcribing, and phones)
- Critical Thinking ability** (to evaluate, assess, and problem solve in order to reach an answer or conclusion)
- Leadership ability** (to train, coach, mentor, facilitate and/or strategize in order to accomplish an objective or goal)
- Financial/Numeric ability** (to sort and process accounting and bookkeeping tasks)
- Technology ability** (to operate/repair equipment)
- Production ability** (stage hand, audio mixer, lighting, recording, camera)
- Computer Technology ability** (to create new apps, software, hardware, graphic design, programming, data entry)
- Maintenance ability** (to operate/repair equipment.)
- Video/Technology ability** (video editor, set designer, script writer, makeup artist, camera operator, director/producer, production assistant, costume coordinator)

Other: _____

DISCOVERING YOUR EXPERIENCES

Examining My Experiences

One of the most overlooked factors in determining the ministry God has for me is my past experience, particularly my hurts and the problems I've overcome with God's help. Since our greatest life messages come out of our weaknesses, not our strengths, we should pay close attention to what we've learned in the "school of hard knocks."

And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

ROMANS 8:28 (NIV)

Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel.

PHILIPPIANS 1:12 (NIV)

1. What _____ experiences have you had?

Always remember what you have learned. Your education is your life—guard it well!

PROVERBS 4:13 (GNT)

2. What _____ experiences have you had?

As He [Jesus] walked beside the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon . . . and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea; for they were fishermen. And He said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men."

MARK 1:18-19 (NASB)

3. What _____ experiences have you had?

There has been enough time for you to be teachers—yet you still need someone to teach you . . . [You are] without any experience in the matter of right and wrong.

HEBREWS 5:12-13 (GNT)

4. What _____ experiences have you had?

Because of the service by which you have proved yourselves, men will praise God for the obedience that accompanies your confession of the gospel.

2 CORINTHIANS 9:13 (NIV)

5. What _____ experiences have you had?

“WE SHOULD USE OUR EXPERIENCES TO HELP OTHERS.”

[God] wonderfully comforts and strengthens us in our hardships and trials. And why does he do this? So that when others are troubled, needing our sympathy and encouragement, we can pass on to them the same help and comfort God has given us.

2 CORINTHIANS 1:3-4 (TLB)

HOW TO EXAMINE MY EXPERIENCES

INSTRUCTIONS: As you look over the experience word list for each of these areas, ask God to help you identify which ones describe you and your experiences. Check all the areas that apply to your life in each of the five areas. If necessary, use the “Other” line at the end of each area to write in your unique personal experience.

1. EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCES

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> High School Diploma | <input type="checkbox"/> PhD/Doctoral Degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Associate of Arts Degree | <input type="checkbox"/> Master’s Degree |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor’s Degree | <input type="checkbox"/> Specialized Advanced Training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

2. WORK EXPERIENCES

Agriculture

- Agriculture/Animal Husbandry

Automotive

- Management
- Mechanic/Maintenance
- Manufacturing
- Sales/Marketing
- Other _____

Business

- Administrative Support
- Product Receiving/Delivery
- Advertising/Marketing
- Property Management
- Chemicals
- Public Relations
- Consulting
- Purchasing
- Construction/Building
- Real Estate
- Financial Services
- Recruiting/Head Hunting
- Food/Restaurant Services
- Sales/Retail
- Manufacturing
- Service/Customer Relations
- Personal Care Products/Services
- Sewing
- Personnel/Human Relations
- Small Business Owner
- Project/Area Management
- Other _____

Computer Science

- Consulting
- Info Systems/Tech Support
- Data Entry/Management
- Printing
- Graphics
- Software
- Hardware
- Web Based
- Other _____

Creative Arts

- Architecture
- Illustration
- Advertising
- Industrial Design
- Computer Arts
- Interior Architecture/Design
- Fashion
- Motion Pictures/Television
- Fine Arts
- Photographer
- Graphic Design
- Other _____

Education

- Christian/Religion
- Physical Education/Coaching
- Counseling
- Preschool/Elementary Education
- History

- Sciences
- Jr. High/H.S. Education
- Social Sciences
- Languages
- Special Education
- Manual Arts/Vocational Skills
- Specialist
- Mathematics
- Technology/Communication
- Music
- Training
- Other _____

Academia

- Student

Entertainment

- Actor/Actress
- Homemaker
- Banquets/Events
- Media (Radio, Video, Film, etc.)
- Hotel Services
- Resorts/Theme Parks
- Other _____

Medical

- Administrative/Support Services
- Obstetrics/Gynecology
- Chiropractic
- Ophthalmology/Optometry
- Dental
- Orthodontics
- Dermatology
- Pathology
- General
- Pharmacology
- Geriatrics
- Physical/Occupational Therapy
- Internal
- Pediatrics
- Mental Health
- Podiatry
- Nursing
- Sales/Services
- Nutrition
- Other _____

Military

- Air Force
- Marines
- Army
- Navy
- Coast Guard
- Other _____

Other

- Retired

Public/Civil Services

- Fire Protection
- Postal Services
- Government Services
- Social/Community Services
- Immigration Services
- Transportation
- Internal Revenue Service
- Speech Pathology
- Investigation
- Surgery
- Law Enforcement/Security
- Policy/Permit
- Other _____

Science

- Engineering

Tax/Legal/Court Services

- Attorney
- Paralegal
- Certified Public Accountant
- Prisoner Services (Bail, Parole)
- Court Services
- Other _____

Transportation

- Airline Attendant
- Bus/Truck/Automobile Driver
- Airline Pilot
- Railroad
- Air Traffic Control
- Travel Agency/Services
- Other _____

Utilities

- Cable Television
- Service/Sales/Management/Install
- Gas/Electric
- Water
- Phone
- Other _____

Vocational Ministry

- Administrator
- Pastor
- Director
- Other _____

3. SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES

- Baptized
- Member of Saddleback Church
- Community Outreach
- Regularly Tithe to God
- Cross-Cultural Ministry
- Regularly Pray

- Led Someone to Christ
- Regularly Read the Bible
- Member of a Small Group
- Serving in a Ministry
- Other _____

4. MINISTRY EXPERIENCES (I HAVE WORKED WITH . . .)

Age and Life Stages

- College/Career
- Men
- Couples
- Preschool Students
- Elementary Students
- Senior Adults
- Family
- Single Adults
- High School Students
- Young Marrieds
- Infants/Babies
- Women
- Junior High Students
- Other _____

Ministry Roles/Functions

- Administrative Support
- Hosting
- Baking/Cooking
- Hospital Care
- Baptism
- In-Home Care/Senior Ministry
- Bible Teacher
- Lay Counselor
- Camp Counselor
- Library

- Career Missions/World Impact
- Media/Tape
- Children's Ministry
- Musician
- Choir
- Prayer Team
- Church Life (weddings, funerals, anniversaries)
- Prison Ministry
- Program/Event Coordinator
- Cleaning/Maintenance/Repair
- Retreat Planning
- Communications/Tech/Graphics
- Security
- Communion
- Setup/Teardown
- Deaf Ministry
- Small Group Leader
- Disciple/Mentor
- Speaker/Trainer
- Discussion/Table Leader
- Technical/AV Support
- Drama
- Traffic
- Facilities Oversight
- Van/Bus/Truck Driver
- Financial Counselor
- Writing
- Food Preparation/Café
- Worship Leader
- Greeter/Usher
- Other _____

5. PAINFUL EXPERIENCES (I CAN RELATE/I HAVE GONE THROUGH . . .)

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abortion | <input type="checkbox"/> Crisis Pregnancy |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extended Depression | <input type="checkbox"/> Recovery Program |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Abuse | <input type="checkbox"/> Death/Grief |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extended Job Loss | <input type="checkbox"/> Remarried |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Adoption | <input type="checkbox"/> Depression |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extended Physical Illness/Injury | <input type="checkbox"/> Separated and Restored Marriage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alcoholism | <input type="checkbox"/> Divorce |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Handicapped/Disabled | <input type="checkbox"/> Separated and not yet Restored |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alzheimer's/Dementia | <input type="checkbox"/> Drug Abuse/Addiction |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Homeless | <input type="checkbox"/> Marriage |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Annulment of Marriage | <input type="checkbox"/> Dating Disorder |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Military Wartime Service | <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Compulsion |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bankruptcy | <input type="checkbox"/> Extended Court |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Miscarriage | <input type="checkbox"/> Suicide of Family Member |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cancer | <input type="checkbox"/> Proceedings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Orphaned | <input type="checkbox"/> Widowed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chronic Pain | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Prison | |

ANSWER

KEY

SESSION ONE: SERVING AT REACH

THE GOAL OF OUR MINISTRY AT SADDLEBACK

God Wants to Use Us to Help Others Grow.

HOW WE ACHIEVE OUR GOAL

1. To COMMUNICATE God's Word (Evangelism)
2. To INCORPORATE God's Family (Fellowship)
3. To CELEBRATE God's Presence (Worship)
4. To EDUCATE God's People (Discipleship)
5. To DEMONSTRATE God's Love (Ministry)

SESSION TWO: THE PRIORITY OF MINISTRY

ABOUT YOUR SIGNIFICANCE

1. I've been CREATED for ministry.
2. I've been SAVED for ministry.
3. I've been CALLED into ministry.
4. I've been GIFTED for ministry.
5. I've been AUTHORIZED for ministry.
6. I'm COMMANDED to minister.
7. I'm to be EQUIPPED for ministry.
8. The body of Christ NEEDS my ministry.

Ministry always functions in the context of the CHURCH family.

9. I am ACCOUNTABLE for my ministry.
10. I will be REWARDED for my ministry!

SESSION THREE: DISCOVERING YOUR GIFTS

THE PURPOSE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. Not for my benefit, but FOR THE BENEFIT OF OTHERS.
2. To produce MATURITY and HARMONY in your church family.

TEN TRUTHS ABOUT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

1. Only BELIEVERS have spiritual gifts.
2. Every Christian has at least ONE SPIRITUAL gift.
3. No one receives ALL OF the gifts.
4. No single gift is given to EVERYONE.

5. You can't EARN a spiritual gift.
6. The HOLY SPIRIT decides what gifts I get.
7. The gifts I'm given are PERMANENT.
8. I am to DEVELOP the gifts that God gives me.
9. It's a sin to WASTE the gifts God gives me.
10. Using my gifts HONORS God and EXPANDS me.

DISCOVERING YOUR HEART

My heart is the REAL me!

MY HEART DETERMINES...

1. Why I SAY the things I do.
2. Why I FEEL the way I do.
3. Why I ACT the way I do.

You can do God's will and serve God's purpose by letting your heartbeat MOTIVATE you for ministry.

DISCOVERING YOUR EXPERIENCES

1. What EDUCATIONAL experiences have you had?
2. What WORK experiences have you had?
3. What SPIRITUAL experiences have you had?
4. What MINISTRY experiences have you had?
5. What PAINFUL experiences have you had?