



From Believers to Disciples

CLASS #103: RELATIONSHIPS

Faro Church Discipleship

Student's Name

Welcome!

At Faro Church, we believe you are deeply loved by God and have tremendous value in His Kingdom. God wants your decision to follow Jesus to go beyond mere religion—He desires for you to walk with Him daily. You’ve responded to God’s call to grow and connect through our FARO Discipleship program, and we’re blessed by your heartfelt desire to learn more about your new life in Christ, the Bible, and Faro Church.

Our vision is that these discipleship classes will be more than a membership requirement; it will be an opportunity for growth and a deeper fellowship with God and His people.

In our first class, ***Foundations***, we studied the identity, values, and beliefs of Faro Church. During our second class, ***Anchors***, we learned about cultivating a rooted relationship with God and building a healthy connection to His Church.

Today’s Class—***Relationships***

In this third class, we aim to help you discover, develop, and deploy your spiritual gifts, talents, and abilities. We will explore your D.E.S.I.G.N. for ministry—a framework that covers:

- Desires
- Experiences
- Spiritual Gifts
- Individual Style
- Growth Phase
- Natural Abilities

By understanding each part of your unique design, you’ll see how God has equipped you to serve Him by serving others. At the end of this class, you will be encouraged to ***seek the servant’s entrance***—the humble doorway of ministry—and become actively involved in your local church community.

We’re excited that you’ve said “yes” to continuing your discipleship journey, and we pray that God will fuel the flame of your passion for His mission.

Let’s Begin!

— ***Pastor Steve Pinto***

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PART 1: EVERY MEMBER

DISCOVERING, DEVELOPING, DEPLOYING

“¹⁰ God has given each of you a gift from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.” (1 Peter 4:10 | NLT)

Every member of the Body of Christ carries a sacred responsibility to discover, develop, and deploy the spiritual gifts, talents, and abilities entrusted to them by God. These gifts are not meant for private benefit or personal glory; rather, they exist for the edification of the local church (***Ephesians 4:11-13***) and the advancement of God’s kingdom (***Romans 12:4-8***). When each believer embraces their divine calling and offers their unique contribution, the Church flourishes and the gospel is displayed in fresh, compelling ways.

Our _____ for _____

In this part of our course, we examine how every believer can identify and steward their God-given wiring:

- 1- Desires** – Our God-given passions, prompting us to serve in areas where we experience deep joy and motivation (***Psalms 37:4***).
- 2- Experiences** – Past events, whether painful or positive, educational or spiritual, all of which God redeems for effective service (***Romans 8:28***).
- 3- Spiritual Gifts** – Supernatural enablings from the Holy Spirit, powering our ministry beyond mere human capability (***1 Corinthians 12:7-11*** | ***1 Peter 4:10***).
- 4- Individual Style** – Personality traits and preferences that God intends to harness rather than erase (***Psalms 139:13-16***).
- 5- Growth Phase** – The ongoing maturing process where we learn to thrive where God plants us, applying truth through humble service (***Colossians 1:9-10***).
- 6- Natural Abilities** – Innate skills or aptitudes, valuable for kingdom work when offered back to the Lord (***1 Corinthians 12:6***).

Seeking the _____

By exploring this D.E.S.I.G.N., we hope every believer will feel moved to enter ministry with a servant’s heart — a posture of humility and action (***Mark 10:43-45***). Engaging your gifts in ministry embodies Jesus’ teaching that true greatness is found in serving others (***John 13:14-17***). Thus, every member plays a vital role in sustaining and expanding the local church’s impact.

In essence, God calls each of us to shift from observers to participants in His work. As you progress through this lesson, remember that your contributions — no matter how modest they may seem — carry eternal significance when carried out in obedience to Christ.

The Importance of _____

Throughout history, we see how just one vote has influenced entire nations — reminding us that every individual contribution can affect the trajectory of a community. Consider the following pivotal moments:

- **1800 – U.S. Presidential Election:** One vote in the House broke the tie between Thomas Jefferson and Aaron Burr, securing Jefferson’s presidency.
- **1820 – Missouri Compromise:** One vote in Congress passed the measure preserving the balance between free and slave states.
- **1845 – Annexation of Texas:** One vote in the U.S. Senate finalized bringing Texas into the Union.
- **1868 – Andrew Johnson Impeachment:** One vote in the Senate saved the president from removal.
- **1876 – U.S. Presidential Election:** One vote by the Electoral Commission awarded Rutherford B. Hayes the presidency.
- **1920 – Women’s Suffrage:** One vote in the Tennessee legislature ratified the 19th Amendment, granting women the right to vote.
- **1964 – Civil Rights Act:** One vote in the Senate overcame a filibuster, leading to the landmark civil rights legislation.
- **1993 – NAFTA:** One vote in the House passed the North American Free Trade Agreement, affecting continental trade.
- **2021 – U.S. Senate Control:** One vote in the Georgia runoff determined party majority, influencing national policy.

Why mention the importance of a single vote?

Because just as one vote can determine the future of a nation, one committed individual in the Church can greatly advance God’s kingdom. Each example testifies to how a single choice or action can alter history. Similarly, every individual in the church — no matter how seemingly small their gift or role — can make a tremendous impact on kingdom work when they’re faithful and engaged.

An _____ Ministry

Our overarching aim is to emphasize that ministry isn’t reserved for a small team of “professional” clergy or leaders. Rather, it’s the God-given responsibility of every believer. Scripture repeatedly confirms that all parts of the Body of Christ are necessary (**1 Corinthians 12:7-20**). No gift is too small; no calling is too minor.

“¹⁵ Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. ¹⁶ He makes the whole body fit together perfectly. As each part does its own special work, it helps the other parts grow, so that the whole body is healthy and growing and full of love.” (Ephesians 4:15-16 | NLT)

At Faro Church, we strive to do and continue doing church as a _____. We believe:

- **Every member is a minister:** gifted, called, and empowered for a purpose (*Romans 12:4-8*).
- **Every member has God-given abilities** to discover, develop, and deploy.
- **We are volunteer driven:** each person finds their greatest fulfillment when they serve according to their design and passion.

When you serve according to your spiritual gifts, you'll experience joy and purpose that surpasses mere duty. You're not just "helping out" or "filling a slot"; you're fulfilling God's plan for your life and blessing others in the process (*1 Peter 4:11*).

Looking Ahead

In the next sections of this class, you'll dive deeper into how God has uniquely crafted you. By identifying your personal D.E.S.I.G.N., you'll see how every believer can contribute mightily to the mission of the Church. Remember that a functioning, healthy church requires all of its parts—every single choice, every single gift, and every single believer.

Our prayer is that you'll discover your place in God's redemptive story, knowing that:

- 1- You matter to God and to us.
- 2- You have a role that no one else can fully replicate.
- 3- Ministry belongs to every disciple — young or old, experienced or new in the faith.

"¹² The human body has many parts, but the many parts make up one whole body. So it is with the body of Christ." (1 Corinthians 12:12 | NLT)

Let's move forward, ready to discover, develop, and deploy the gifts and callings God has placed in us!

1. EVERY MEMBER HAS A FUNCTION THAT NEEDS TO BE DISCOVERED

"⁴ Just as our bodies have many parts and each part has a special _____, ⁵ so it is with Christ's body. We are many parts of one body, and we all belong to each other." (Romans 12:4-5 | NLT)

Good _____ and Good _____

In *Romans 12*, the Greek term for "function" is praxis (*pră'-ksēs*), which means "a doing, a mode of acting, a deal, a transaction." Praxis is a function or practice implying sustained activity. Just as believers have varied spiritual gifts, we also fulfill different functions in the Body of Christ.

- **Orthodoxy refers to correct belief** — what we understand to be biblically true.
- **Orthopraxy refers to correct practice** — how we live out our beliefs in daily life.

Every member needs to have a good orthodoxy, but every member must have an equal orthopraxy.

God's plan is for every Christian to embrace both. If you focus only on learning doctrine (orthodoxy) but never apply it, you can become stagnant or even legalistic — knowing all the right answers but lacking in grace or love. On the other hand, if you chase experiences or purely practical action (orthopraxy) without solid biblical grounding, you could become fanatical or misdirected. True disciples seek both sound teaching and godly living.

***“⁹ They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience.”
(1 Timothy 3:9 | NIV)***

Overcoming _____ That Keep Us from Serving

Many believers never discover their kingdom function because of attitudes like:

- Feeling unworthy or not good enough
- Fearing they don't “measure up” to some standard of perfection
- Finding the idea of serving awkward or inconvenient

Yet these very reservations are what God wants to transform. Through service, we face our fears and insecurities head-on, trusting the Lord to shape our character.

“The truest test of a servant is how he responds when he is treated like one.”

When you discover your function and step into service, you learn humility and patience, you grow in love, and you practice cooperation with others — even when it's uncomfortable. This is how God moves us from simply acquiring information to experiencing transformation.

Serving to Be Like _____

Ultimately, we don't serve just because there's a need; we serve because we are becoming more like Jesus. Consider that around half of our spiritual growth happens through learning—in worship services, small groups, and Bible studies (orthodoxy), while the other half comes through practical application — actually doing ministry (orthopraxy).

“²² But don't just listen to God's word. You must do what it says. Otherwise, you are only fooling yourselves.” (James 1:22 | NLT)

Knowledge meets application in acts of service, and that's where your faith matures. Jesus Himself modeled the servant's heart when He washed His disciples' feet (***John 13:14-17***), reminding us that true greatness in God's kingdom is found in humble service.

Every Member Has a _____

“¹⁷ So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.” (James 2:17 | NLT)

Each believer has a unique role or function that must be discovered in order to foster both personal growth and the growth of the Body of Christ. If you never find your place, you miss out on the practical side of your spiritual journey — where truths learned take root and flourish in everyday life.

God desires to move us from _____ (seeing His truth) to _____ (knowing His truth) to _____ (living His truth). When each member finds and fulfills their God-given function, the entire church becomes healthier, stronger, and more vibrant — truly reflecting the hands and feet of Christ in the world.

- A person who is only interested in information (orthodoxy) will become a Pharisee.
- A person who is only interested in inspiration will become a Fanatic.
- A person who is interested in incarnation (orthoproxy) will become a Disciple

2. EVERY MEMBER NEEDS TO BE DEVELOPED FOR MINISTRY

“¹¹ Now these are the gifts Christ gave to the church: the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, and the pastors and teachers. ¹² Their responsibility is to _____ God’s people to do his work and build up the church, the body of Christ. ¹³ This will continue until we all come to such unity in our faith and knowledge of God’s Son that we will be mature in the Lord, measuring up to the full and complete standard of Christ.” (Ephesians 4:11-13 | NLT)

Equipped for _____

In **Ephesians 4:12**, the Greek word for “equip” is *katartismos* (*kä-tär-tē-smo’s*). This term carries the idea of mending, repairing, setting in order, or furnishing fully — much like a doctor setting a broken bone so it can heal and function correctly or a fisherman repairing his net, so it becomes useful and productive again. Similarly, Christ has given the Church apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers so they might mend the saints, preparing them for effective ministry. As believers are equipped, the Body of Christ becomes stronger and more unified, able to reflect Jesus to the world.

“¹⁹ So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners...

²¹ We are carefully joined together in him, becoming a holy temple for the Lord.” (Ephesians 2:19, 21 | NLT)

As believers we need to develop _____, and _____.

_____ Equipping

Foundational to all ministry development is spiritual growth grounded in God’s Word.

“¹⁶ All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. ¹⁷ God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17 | NLT)

1- Sound Doctrine

We gain a clear understanding of biblical truth through teaching and correcting. This nurtures firm convictions and guards against false teachings (**Ephesians 4:14**).

2- Practical Righteousness

Scripture offers rebuke and training for right living. As we apply these principles in everyday life, we grow in Christlike character (**James 1:22**).

With what purpose? *God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.*

Example: Jesus Himself consistently taught and modeled Scripture when preparing the disciples (**Luke 24:45**). Before sending them out, He made certain they understood the deeper truths of God's kingdom (**Mark 4:34**).

_____ *Equipping*

Mark Dever wrote, *"Jesus said, 'I will build my church' (Matt. 16:18). If Jesus is committed to the church, should we be any less committed to it?"*

Beyond spiritual maturity, there's also a practical or "technical" side to ministry development. Even Jesus took time to train the Twelve, showing them how to preach, heal, and organize for mission (**Luke 10:1-9**). In the same way, we, too, engage in:

- 1- **Planning and Preparation:** Ministry requires foresight and strategy. For instance, the Apostles in **Acts 6:1-7** appointed individuals to oversee food distribution to widows.
- 2- **Skill Building:** Whether it's learning to teach effectively, manage administrative tasks, work with technology, or organize events, believers should be ready to grow their abilities for service.

"_____ never makes up for lack of preparation and _____ never makes up for lack of preparation."

"²³ Work willingly at whatever you do, as though you were working for the Lord rather than for people." (Colossians 3:23 | NLT)

Example: Paul and Barnabas taught new leaders not only sound doctrine, but also how to care for others, appoint elders, and resolve conflicts (**Acts 14:21-23**). Skill-building and spiritual depth go hand-in-hand for successful ministry.

_____ *and* _____

True ministry demands time, energy, and often personal sacrifice. David said:

"...I will not present burnt offerings to the Lord my God that have cost me nothing..." (2 Samuel 24:24 | NLT).

Real service may stretch us — financially, emotionally, or physically — but it also brings profound rewards:

- 1- **Growth and Maturity:** As we step out of our comfort zone, we experience deeper dependence on God, refining our character (**Romans 5:3-5**).
- 2- **Kingdom Fruitfulness:** Our labors, empowered by the Holy Spirit, bear eternal fruit in the lives of others (**John 15:8**).

John Henry Jowett said, *“Ministry that costs nothing, accomplishes nothing.”*

The Path Forward

Every believer is on a journey of development for ministry. Whether you’ve just begun attending church or have been a Christian for decades, God desires to equip you through Scripture, training, and hands-on experience. As you submit to God’s process of spiritual and technical equipping, you’ll be better able to build up the Body of Christ and advance the gospel.

Remember: God has uniquely placed leaders, mentors, and resources in your life to support your growth. Embrace this training so you can, in turn, fulfill your specific calling and equip others as well.

“¹⁵ Work hard so you can present yourself to God and receive his approval. Be a good worker, one who does not need to be ashamed and who correctly explains the word of truth.” (2 Timothy 2:15 | NLT)

When every member commits to ongoing development — spiritually and practically — the entire church benefits, moving toward the unity, maturity, and Christlikeness described in ***Ephesians 4***.

3. EVERY MINISTER HAS A GIFT THEY NEED TO DEPLOY

“¹⁰ God has given each of you a _____ from his great variety of spiritual gifts. Use them well to serve one another.” (1 Peter 4:10 | NLT)

Gifts Come by _____

The Greek term for “gifts” in this passage is charisma (*khä'-rē-smä*). It comes from the root word *charis* — meaning “grace” — and the suffix *-ma*, indicating “the result of.” So, a spiritual gift is literally a “grace-gift.” It’s an unmerited ability that God grants to every believer at the moment of saving faith (***1 Corinthians 12:1-11***). These gifts aren’t earned through training or personal merit; they are expressions of God’s grace toward His people.

“⁷ However, he has given each one of us a special gift through the generosity of Christ.” (Ephesians 4:7 | NLT)

_____ Believer Receives at Least One Gift

No Christian can rightly claim to have no spiritual gifts. Scripture declares that the Holy Spirit endows every believer with at least one special ability intended for serving and building the Body of Christ (***1 Corinthians 12:7-11***). Whether it’s mercy, leadership, teaching, administration, or another grace-gift, your purpose is always to benefit others and glorify God — not to elevate yourself.

“⁶ In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well...” (Romans 12:6 | NLT)

In **1 Corinthians 12**, Paul underscores that each gift, though distinct, is crucial for the proper functioning of the whole church. If you withhold or undervalue your gift, the Body of Christ misses a piece of God's design.

John Piper wrote, *"Gifts are not for a few but for all, and every believer has abilities which the Holy Spirit has given and can use to strengthen others. And it is the supreme joy of life to discover what they are and then pour yourself out to others through these gifts."*

USING Our Gifts

Spiritual gifts are not meant to remain hidden or undeveloped. They mature and grow effective through faithful application and discipleship, often in partnership with seasoned leaders who can offer guidance and accountability (**2 Timothy 1:6**). As we serve, the Holy Spirit works through us to strengthen and edify the church community.

"6 In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well. So if God has given you the ability to prophesy, speak out with as much faith as God has given you. 7 If your gift is serving others, serve them well. If you are a teacher, teach well. 8 If your gift is to encourage others, be encouraging. If it is giving, give generously. If God has given you leadership ability, take the responsibility seriously. And if you have a gift for showing kindness to others, do it gladly." (Romans 12:6-8 | NLT)

Development Through _____

- 1- Application:** As you use your gift — be it teaching in a Sunday school class, hospitality, or volunteering — you gain skill and spiritual insight.
- 2- Mentorship:** Seek out more mature believers or ministry leaders who can help disciple you in effectively exercising your gift.
- 3- Ongoing Growth:** Stay in the Word, remain prayerful, and be open to constructive feedback. Even experienced ministers keep learning and refining their God-given abilities.

Example: Timothy, a young leader in the early church, was encouraged by Paul to "fan into flame" the gift that God had given him (**2 Timothy 1:6**). Paul's mentorship helped Timothy move from timid follower to bold pastor.

Called to _____

Above all, spiritual gifts are a sacred trust — a stewardship from the Lord. Just as in the Parable of the Talents (**Matthew 25:14-30**), God entrusts gifts to each servant, expecting them to use and multiply what has been given. If we bury our gift out of fear or neglect, we miss both the joy and reward of faithful service. If we put our gift into action, God uses it to bless others and expand His kingdom.

Remember:

- 1- Your gift belongs to God, given to you by grace.
- 2- You are responsible to develop and deploy it.
- 3- Everyone — new believer or longtime disciple — plays a vital role.

“A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.”
(1 Corinthians 12:7 | NLT)

When every minister in the Body embraces their unique grace-gift and uses it to serve, the church flourishes, walking in unity and reflecting Jesus' love to the world.

4. EVERY BELIEVER IS CREATED FOR MINISTRY, GIFTED FOR MINISTRY, AUTHORIZED FOR MINISTRY, AND NEEDED FOR MINISTRY

Scripture affirms that each of us has a crucial part to play in God's work — regardless of our background, abilities, or perceived limitations. We are not merely spectators in the Kingdom; we are active participants, designed and commissioned to serve the Lord and His people.

Overcoming _____

1- Holy-Man Myth

Belief: Only a pastor (minister), priest, evangelist, prophet or “holy men” can do ministry.

Truth: In the New Testament, every believer is called to serve God. We are a “royal priesthood” (**1 Peter 2:9**), indicating that all Christians — men and women alike — share in the privilege and responsibility of ministry.

2- Holy-Church Myth

Belief: God only works within a certain building or temple.

Truth: God's presence dwells within believers (**1 Corinthians 6:19**). The Church is not a physical structure but rather the people who gather in Jesus' name. **Acts 7:48** reminds us that God does not dwell in buildings made by human hands; His work transcends walls and embraces all places.

3- Bystander Myth

Belief: “Everyone else” is handling ministry, so I don't need to.

Truth: Each believer is personally accountable to God for using the gifts and abilities He provides (**Romans 14:12**). **James 4:17** teaches that if we know the good we ought to do and fail to do it, we sin. Thus, we can't remain on the sidelines; the Body needs every part functioning.

4- “I Can’t” Myth

Belief: “I’m not holy or talented enough; I have nothing to offer.”

Truth: God’s power is perfected in our weakness (**2 Corinthians 12:9**). Every part of the Body, even those seeming “weaker,” is indispensable (**1 Corinthians 12:14-22**). When we say “I can’t,” we often discount God’s grace and the Holy Spirit’s enabling.

Striving for _____ in Service

“Sing a new song of praise to him; play skillfully on the harp, and sing with joy.”
(Psalm 33:3 | NLT)

King David highlighted that our worship — and by extension, our service — should display skill, creativity, and passion. We’re encouraged to do everything — even seemingly mundane tasks — with excellence, because we serve the Lord, not merely humans (**Colossians 3:23**).

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. famously stated:

“If a man is called to be a street sweeper, he should sweep streets even as Michelangelo painted... so that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause to say, ‘Here lived a great street sweeper who did his job well.’”

The principle is that no task is “too small” when done unto God. Nothing significant happens in the local church unless individuals find their place and faithfully do what God has assigned them to do — whether that is preaching, greeting, setting up chairs, mentoring youth, or organizing events.

A Holy _____ for All Believers

Each person — regardless of education, background, or perceived skill — has a God-given ministry waiting to be embraced:

- 1- Created for Ministry:** **Ephesians 2:10** teaches we are God’s workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works.
- 2- Gifted for Ministry:** The Holy Spirit distributes spiritual gifts to all believers (**1 Corinthians 12:7-11**).
- 3- Authorized for Ministry:** Jesus commissioned every disciple, saying, “Go and make disciples of all nations” (**Matthew 28:18-20**).
- 4- Needed for Ministry:** **1 Corinthians 12** insists that each member is indispensable, ensuring the Body flourishes only when everyone participates.

When we fully grasp that every believer is created, gifted, authorized, and needed, we start seeing ourselves the way God does — essential contributors to His mission. By overcoming the myths that hold us back, we develop a spirit of excellence, glorifying God in all we do.

“¹⁷ And whatever you do or say, do it as a representative of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks through him to God the Father.” (Colossians 3:17 | NLT)

Ultimately, embracing your calling and serving with a heart of excellence will not only bless others but also bring joy and fulfillment in your own walk with Christ.

God is calling you to take your place in ministry:

- From a Watcher to a Doer
- From a Bystander to a Team Player
- From an Onlooker to Fully Engaged
- From Taker to Giver
- From a Spectator to Participator
- From a Consumer to a Contributor
- From a Complainer to Encourager
- From a Believer to a Disciple

PART 2: WHAT'S MY "DESIGN"?

A TOOL FOR CLARITY

Every believer has a unique **D.E.S.I.G.N.** that reveals how God has shaped and equipped them for ministry. This framework helps you understand the specific ways in which the Lord has molded you — mind, heart, and abilities — to serve others and glorify Him.

D Desires: Reflects the God-given passions that motivate and inspire you (*Psalms 37:4*)

E Experiences: Encompasses your life's journey — both positive and painful — and how God redeems them for His purposes (*Romans 8:28*).

S Spiritual Gifts: Represents the Holy Spirit's unique enablement given at conversion (*1 Corinthians 12:7-11*).

I Individual Style: Captures your personality traits — whether more structured or spontaneous, relational or task-oriented (*Psalms 139:13-16*).

G Growth Phase: Addresses your current maturity in Christ and how He's stretching you to develop further (*2 Peter 3:18*).

N Natural Abilities: Covers inherent skills or aptitudes God can repurpose for kingdom work (*Exodus 35:30-35*).

"¹⁰For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." (Ephesians 2:10 | NLT)

Shaped for _____

God's shaping of your life is no accident; it began before you even took your first breath:

"⁵ 'I knew you before I formed you in your mother's womb. Before you were born I set you apart...'." (Jeremiah 1:5 | NLT)

From life experiences to innate talents, the Lord has been orchestrating each piece to fit His kingdom work:

1- _____ to Serve

The Bible consistently teaches that humans are made to reflect God's character. Serving others demonstrates Christlike compassion (*Matthew 20:28*).

2- _____ to Serve

Jesus' Great Commission (*Matthew 28:19-20*) and the call to love our neighbors (*Mark 12:31*) illustrate that every believer is invited into active ministry.

3- _____ When We Serve

Service leads to eternal fruit and joy (**John 15:8-11**). Moreover, God honors faithful stewardship (**Matthew 25:21**). Even a cup of water given in His name has lasting significance (**Mark 9:41**).

Embracing Your _____ Design

The purpose of identifying your D.E.S.I.G.N. is to clarify your God-given role in the Body of Christ. When we serve according to our individual wiring, we experience:

- 1- **Fulfillment:** Using the gifts He's entrusted to us brings deep satisfaction (**John 10:10**).
- 2- **Effectiveness:** We function at our best when we operate in our Spirit-empowered sweet spot (**Romans 12:6-8**).
- 3- **Unity:** As each person exercises their gifts and abilities, the Church matures and grows in unity and love (**Ephesians 4:15-16**).

Remember:

- 1- You're God's masterpiece, specifically crafted for good works.
- 2- Your life story, passions, and capabilities are all vital components of His plan.
- 3- Discovering, developing, and deploying your D.E.S.I.G.N. leads to a dynamic, fulfilling ministry that blesses both the Church and the world around you.

Now, let's explore the components of D.E.S.I.G.N. in more detail, moving you closer to the impactful and fruitful ministry God prepared for you long ago.

DISCOVERING MY D.E.S.I.G.N. FOR MINISTRY

God has created each of us with a unique purpose and design. Understanding who you are in Christ and how He has wired you is key to living out your calling.

"Every person is absolutely unique in his or her design, and God doesn't want you to settle for anything less than His very best! ...the more you understand the way He designed you to be, the better you can cooperate with that design!"

— Wayne Cordeiro, Doing Church As A Team

In the course materials you've received for this class, there is a form titled "What's My D.E.S.I.G.N.?" This document is an important tool for recording what you learn about yourself as we walk through each part of the D.E.S.I.G.N. framework — Desires, Experiences, Spiritual Gifts, Individual Style, Growth Phase, and Natural Abilities.

How to Use the "What's My D.E.S.I.G.N.?" Form

1. Keep It Handy

As you go through each section of this booklet — exploring your personal passions, major life events, spiritual gifts, personality traits, current growth phase, and innate abilities — have your "What's My D.E.S.I.G.N.?" form readily available. Each segment will prompt you to reflect on your journey, and you'll fill in specific areas of the form with your insights.

2. Record Key Reflections

- D Desires:** Note the God-given passions that energize you (*Psalms 37:4*).
- E Experiences:** List pivotal events — both triumphs and trials — that God can redeem for ministry (*Romans 8:28*).
- S Spiritual Gifts:** Mark your top gifts after completing the Spiritual Gifts Assessment (*1 Corinthians 12:7-11*).
- I Individual Style:** Identify whether you lean more toward task-focused or people-focused, structured or unstructured (*Psalms 139:13-16*).
- G Growth Phase:** Gauge your current maturity and availability for ministry (*1 Peter 2:2*).
- N Natural Abilities:** Discover the aptitudes you were born with that can serve kingdom work (*1 Corinthians 12:6*).

3. Reflect on Each Part

The form is interactive and meant to evolve as you progress through the course. Take time to pray, ponder Scripture, and ask trusted friends or leaders for feedback as you fill out each section.

4. Compile Your Findings

By the end of this session, you'll have a comprehensive snapshot of how God has wired you — spiritually, emotionally, and practically — to serve in His church. This overview can guide you (and church leaders) to find ministry roles matching your gifts, passions, and availability (*Ephesians 4:11-13*).

Why It Matters

Ephesians 2:10 reminds us that we are God's *workmanship*, created in Christ for good works. The "What's My D.E.S.I.G.N.?" form helps you unearth the particular ways God has shaped you for those good works. Far beyond ticking boxes, it's an exercise in spiritual discovery — an opportunity to see God's hand in your personality, your experiences, your gifts, and your future calling.

As you proceed, keep this form nearby. Refer to it for clarity, jot down any new insights the Holy Spirit reveals, and take note of verses or principles that resonate strongly with you. By the time you complete these lessons, you will have a valuable reference to guide your ministry involvement and help you discuss next steps with mentors or leaders.

So, let's begin — with an open heart, a ready pen, and a spirit of expectation for how the Lord will further reveal His design for your life and service.

D.E.S.I.G.N. PART 1: DESIRES

Desires are your God-given passions — those intrinsic motivators that stir your heart and capture your imagination. When you operate in these areas, you experience a special excitement and deep joy because you are aligning with how God has uniquely wired you.

1- Your Desires Are _____

As you draw near to the Lord — through prayer, worship, and time in His Word — He shapes your desires so that they more closely reflect His. This process helps you discern between mere personal interests and those truly birthed by the Holy Spirit.

“Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart’s desires.”
(Psalm 37:4 | NLT)

When you walk with God, your heart finds true alignment with His will, and the passions that emerge become powerful tools for kingdom service (***John 15:7-8***).

2- Your Desires Are _____

God is not in the business of cloning believers. Each person is a one-of-a-kind creation, shaped by a distinct blend of background, personality, and preferences (***Psalm 139:14***). Your passions may look completely different from those of your peers — perhaps you care deeply about youth outreach, while a friend has a heart for hospital visitation or missionary support.

“In his grace, God has given us different gifts for doing certain things well...”
(Romans 12:6 | NLT)

Example: Nehemiah was deeply moved by the broken walls of Jerusalem (***Nehemiah 1:3-4***). That heartfelt concern led him to mobilize others and rebuild the city walls. God often places burdens like these in our hearts — wherever we sense the greatest pull, we can suspect a divine calling.

3- God Uses Your Passions to Fulfill His _____

According to ***Philippians 2:13***, God is at work in us, giving us both the will (desire) and the ability (power | action) to carry out His plan. This means your natural leanings and Spirit-inspired burdens are not random; they’re part of a larger **divine strategy** to expand His kingdom and glorify His name.

“¹³For God is working in you, giving you the desire and the power to do what pleases him.” (Philippians 2:13 | NLT)

When your God-given passions intersect with a tangible need, you discover your sweet spot for ministry — a place where you can be highly effective and deeply fulfilled.

PERSONAL PROFILE – DESIRES

1- Reflect on Areas That Ignite You

Ask: *Which ministries, causes, or people groups do I find myself constantly thinking about or praying for?*

You might list youth, children, missions, worship, production, hospitality, or another focus that stirs your heart.

2- Seek Insights from Trusted Friends

Sometimes, others see our passions more clearly than we do. **Proverbs 11:14** teaches that there is wisdom in a multitude of counselors — let them speak into your life.

3- Imagine Serving Without Limitation

If resources, time, and location were no barrier, what would you love to do for God?

This question helps reveal core motivations and can clarify your sense of calling.

Select your main desire or passion from your reflections and record it on your “What’s My D.E.S.I.G.N.?” form. This will guide you toward the ministry avenue where your zeal for God’s work can truly flourish.

D.E.S.I.G.N. PART 2:
SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Spiritual gifts are Holy Spirit-empowered abilities bestowed on believers to accomplish God's work in and through the Church. These special abilities move beyond natural talents, enabling Christians to serve with supernatural effectiveness.

“There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit is the source of them all.” (1 Corinthians 12:4 | NLT)

1- A Spiritual Gift is a _____ Received from the Holy Spirit

From the moment you place your trust in Christ, the Holy Spirit endows you with at least one spiritual gift (**1 Peter 4:10**). These gifts range from teaching or healing to administration or prophecy (**1 Corinthians 12:7-11**). Unlike purely human talents, spiritual gifts carry divine power that allows you to serve in ways beyond your natural capacity.

Example: In **Acts 2:1-4**, the disciples received the gift of speaking in different languages — a vivid illustration of how the Spirit grants abilities to fulfill God's purposes.

2- Spiritual Gifts Meant to Be _____ and _____

Paul urges Timothy,

“Do not neglect the spiritual gift you received...” (1 Timothy 4:14 | NLT).

This highlights that a gift can go underutilized or remain dormant if we fail to apply it. Like muscles that grow through consistent exercise, spiritual gifts mature through practice, study, and discipleship. As you put your gift into action — whether in small-group settings, outreach events, or personal ministry — God refines and strengthens it.

“A spiritual gift is given to each of us so we can help each other.”
1 Corinthians 12:7 | NLT)

Here, Paul reminds believers that gifts are intended for practical use within the Body of Christ, so that everyone benefits and matures together (**Ephesians 4:15-16**).

3- Using My Gift Will _____ God and Edify the Church

Spiritual gifts exist to glorify God (**John 15:8**) and build up the Church (**Ephesians 4:16**). When believers operate in their gifts, the community experiences encouragement, teaching, leadership, mercy, and more — ministries that reflect the character and power of Christ. By faithfully exercising your gift, you point others to God's sovereignty and grace, serving as a conduit of His love.

“My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit, and so prove to be My disciples. (John 15:8 | NASB)

Where Are Spiritual Gifts Listed in Scripture?

Several New Testament passages outline spiritual gifts. While none present an exhaustive list, each offers insight into the variety and purpose of these gifts:

- 1- **1 Corinthians 12:8-10; 12:28:** Mentions gifts like wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discernment, tongues, administration, and helps.
- 2- **Romans 12:6-8:** Emphasizes prophecy, service, teaching, exhortation, giving, leadership, and mercy.
- 3- **Ephesians 4:11-13:** Focuses on leadership gifts — apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers.
- 4- **1 Peter 4:9-11:** Summarizes gifts under speaking and serving, urging believers to use them with excellence and love.

Each passage underscores that God’s gifts are as diverse as His people. Whether leading worship, organizing a children’s program, offering hospitality, or interceding in prayer, spiritual gifts are the means by which every believer can uniquely participate in God’s kingdom work.

PERSONAL PROFILE – SPIRITUAL GIFTS

To clarify how God has equipped you, take the Spiritual Gifts Assessment (part of the course materials you’ve received for this class). After you finish, identify your top three gifts and write them on your “What’s My D.E.S.I.G.N.?” form. This exercise will help you understand where you may be most effective and fulfilled in serving the Church.

Also, below are some examples on how to link your spiritual gift to your passion.

Same Passion ... Different Gifts

<i>Shared Passion: Children in difficult life situations</i>			
Person	Jose	Nancy	David
Spiritual Gift (Different)	Leading	Giving	Teaching
Possible Areas of Service	Organizing events to serve children	Funding a program and materials	Teaching parents and guardians

Different Passions ... Same Gift

<i>Shared Gift: Teaching</i>			
Person	Tom	Nancy	Paula
Passion (Different)	Senior Citizens	Homeless	Discipleship
Possible Areas of Service	Teaching at the Golden Age Ministry	Leading devotionals in homeless shelters	Teaching this class

Use these charts to brainstorm how your unique mix of gifts and passions can translate into meaningful areas of service.

**D.E.S.I.G.N. PART 3:
INDIVIDUAL STYLE**

Your personality is the distinct way you're wired — your temperament, preferences, and manner of interacting. This includes whether you naturally gravitate toward task-focused or people-focused activities, and whether you thrive in a structured or unstructured environment. Far from negating your individuality, God intends to use it for His glory and the benefit of others.

“¹³ You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴ Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it.” (Psalm 139:13-14 | NLT)

1- Personal Style is _____

Dying to self is not losing your personality.

When Scripture talks about “dying to self,” it calls us to surrender sin and selfishness to the Lord (***Galatians 2:20*** | ***Romans 6:6***). This does not mean erasing your unique character traits. God made each of us with a specific blend of attributes — whether you're analytical, outgoing, reserved, creative, or organized.

What “Dying to Self” Really Means:

- **Renouncing** sin and self-centeredness (***Luke 9:23***).
- **Embracing** Christlike humility and service toward others (***John 13:14-15***).
- **Yielding** personal agendas to God's kingdom priorities (***Matthew 6:33***).

Example: The Apostle Peter was naturally bold and outspoken. Rather than losing these traits, he learned to channel them under the Holy Spirit's guidance, becoming a courageous leader in the early Church (***Acts 2:14-41***). His personality remained fiery, but it was submitted to God's will.

2- There is No _____ or _____ Style

Personalities can vary greatly:

Task-Focused vs. People-Focused:

- **Task-Focused** individuals feel energized by accomplishing goals, solving problems, and producing tangible results (Nehemiah exemplified this focus while rebuilding Jerusalem's wall, ***Nehemiah 4-6***).
- **People-Focused** believers gain energy through relationships, conversations, and collaborating in team settings (Barnabas showcased this relational style as he encouraged and supported new believers, ***Acts 9:26-27***).

Structured vs. Unstructured:

- **Structured** persons enjoy clear guidelines, detailed schedules, and well-defined processes (consider how Paul organized his missionary journeys carefully, *Acts 15-18*).
- **Unstructured** personalities thrive on flexibility, spontaneity, and room for creative change (Philip's ministry included responding spontaneously to the Spirit's leading, *Acts 8:26-40*).

Each of these expressions can glorify God. The key is yielding our natural tendencies to the Holy Spirit, so we function healthily in the Body of Christ (**1 Corinthians 12:18-20**).

PERSONAL PROFILE – INDIVIDUAL STYLE

In the course materials you've received for this class you'll find a brief assessment designed to help you identify whether you lean task or people, structured or unstructured. Be honest in your responses — there's no "right or wrong" personality. Once you've pinpointed your primary style, mark it on your "What's My D.E.S.I.G.N.?" form.

- 1- **Reflect:** Think about past situations in ministry or at work. Were you more energized by tackling a to-do list or engaging people in conversation?
- 2- **Ask:** How do I prefer to organize (or not organize) my tasks and time?
- 3- **Apply:** Once you understand your style, look for ministry roles that fit. A task | structured person might excel in event planning, while a people | unstructured individual could shine in roles that involve spontaneous interaction.

Embrace Your God-Given Wiring

Recognize that your individual style is a holy gift — part of how the Lord uniquely designed you to serve. Whether you relish detail-oriented tasks or love big-picture brainstorming, whether you connect deeply one-on-one or prefer leading teams, there is a place in ministry where you can thrive (**Romans 12:3-6**). By acknowledging and stewarding your personality under God's direction, you can flourish in your calling and contribute joyfully to the Body of Christ.

D.E.S.I.G.N. PART 4: EXPERIENCES

Every believer's journey is marked by unique experiences — the good, the bad, the educational, and the spiritual. In God's sovereignty, He uses each of these experiences to shape us for effective ministry, molding our hearts and preparing us to serve others.

“²⁸ And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.” (Romans 8:28 | NLT)

1- _____ Experiences

Sometimes our greatest ministry emerges from our deepest struggles. In **2 Corinthians 1:3-4**, Paul explains that God comforts us in our troubles so we can comfort others facing similar hardships. This divine exchange — turning hurt into help — means no trial is ever wasted in God's plan. Your testimony of overcoming suffering can bring hope and healing to those who feel alone or defeated.

Example: Joseph's betrayal and imprisonment (**Genesis 37-50**) ultimately placed him in a position to save countless lives during a famine. His painful journey allowed him to say,

“²⁰ You intended to harm me, but God intended it all for good...”
(Genesis 50:20 | NLT).

2- _____ Experiences

Every role you've held in the Church — teaching Sunday school, leading a small group, volunteering, or greeting — contributes to your growth and refinement. In **Philippians 1:12**, Paul notes that even his imprisonment served to advance the gospel, implying that no ministry experience is wasted. Each one can clarify your strengths, highlight areas for development, and prepare you for future steps.

3- _____ Experiences

Throughout the Bible, significant encounters with God alter people's destinies. Paul's radical conversion on the road to Damascus (**Acts 9:1-19**) transformed him from a persecutor of believers to a passionate apostle of Christ. Similarly, your conversion story, miraculous answers to prayer, or pivotal worship moments serve as spiritual milestones shaping your faith and perspective.

Example: Isaiah's vision of the Lord in the temple (**Isaiah 6**) equipped him with a prophetic calling. Your personal spiritual milestones can likewise ignite fresh zeal, directing how you serve the Church.

4- _____ Experiences

Your formal and informal learning — whether in a classroom, seminar, Bible study, or on-the-job training — can also pave the way for effective ministry. Paul, who studied under Gamaliel (**Acts 22:3**), utilized his education to reason persuasively in the synagogues (**Acts 17:2-3**). From leadership seminars to practical courses on administration or technology, each skill enriches your capacity to serve.

Example: Moses, raised in the royal Egyptian court (**Exodus 2:10**), was well-versed in leadership and organization, preparing him to lead Israel through the wilderness.

PERSONAL PROFILE – EXPERIENCES

Take some time to list significant experiences — whether joyful victories or painful defeats, spiritual breakthroughs or ministry roles — and note the lessons they taught you. Ask the Lord to show you how He might redeem or repurpose them for His kingdom.

1- Painful Experiences: How might your struggles help someone walking a similar path?

2- Ministry Experiences: Which roles have refined you or given clarity about your calling?

3- Spiritual Encounters: How have special moments with God reshaped your direction or attitude?

4- Educational Experiences: What knowledge or skills gained might transfer fruitfully into ministry?

Write down any key experiences on your “What’s My D.E.S.I.G.N.?” form.

As you recognize God’s hand at work in every facet of your story, you’ll become more confident in His plan for your life. No experience is wasted when surrendered to Christ. By sharing both your triumphs and trials, you can help encourage, teach, and build up the Body of Christ in a way that only you can.

**D.E.S.I.G.N. PART 5:
NATURAL ABILITIES**

Beyond spiritual gifts and life experiences, every believer has innate skills or aptitudes — what we call natural abilities. These are talents or proficiencies you may have had even before coming to Christ. However, when you offer them to the Lord, He channels them toward kingdom purposes, maximizing both your impact and your personal fulfillment.

“There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.” (1 Corinthians 12:6 | NIV)

Addressing Common Myths

1- Myth: You aren’t _____ with natural abilities.

Truth: Scripture shows that God sovereignly forms each person in the womb (*Psalms 139:13-16*). He knits into us certain proclivities — music, leadership, craftsmanship, creativity — that surface early in life.

Biblical Example: In *Exodus 31:1-6*, God specifically called and empowered Bezalel and Oholiab with the skill to design the Tabernacle’s furnishings. This demonstrates that natural abilities can be divinely ordained and purposed.

2- Myth: If you have a skill, you’ll be _____ aware of it.

Truth: Sometimes people overlook or underestimate their talents simply because they seem second nature. You might assume, “Doesn’t everyone find this easy?” when in fact, it’s a special knack God gave you.

Biblical Insight: Timothy needed Paul’s encouragement to “...*fan into flame the gift of God...*” within him (*2 Timothy 1:6 | NIV*). Even natural talents can remain underdeveloped unless affirmed and practiced.

3- Myth: Skills used at work are _____ to church ministry.

Truth: Your vocational or professional skills — whether accounting, project management, cooking, or IT — can often be reapplied to benefit the Body of Christ. God can repurpose them for leadership, organizational tasks, or various helps ministries.

Practical Example: A believer experienced in event planning for corporate settings can excel at organizing church conferences, retreats, or outreach programs.

4- Myth: Most people have only a _____ abilities.

Truth: Individuals often possess multiple aptitudes, many of which may lie dormant until tapped. You could be gifted in communication, design, counseling, mechanics, or more — waiting to be discovered and dedicated to God.

Encouragement: *Ephesians 3:20* reminds us that God can do “immeasurably more” than we ask or imagine — He can use a wide range of skills you never thought applicable to ministry.

Discover and Dedicate Your Abilities

Natural abilities become powerful tools in the hand of the Holy Spirit when you consciously offer them to the Lord. Your skill in teaching, writing, analyzing data, carpentry, or any other field can enrich the Church, advance the gospel, and bless communities.

1- Inventory Your Abilities

Ask yourself: *What tasks do I naturally gravitate toward or excel in, even if they seem ‘secular’?*

Seek feedback from friends, family, or leaders — sometimes others identify talents you take for granted.

2- Prayerfully Submit Them to God

Ask the Lord to show you where and how these aptitudes fit His kingdom agenda (*James 1:5*).

3- Find Ministry Outlets

Whether it’s building stage sets for Summer Bible School, crunching numbers for church budgeting, or using cooking skills, you can weave your natural abilities into meaningful service.

PERSONAL PROFILE – NATURAL ABILITIES

In your course materials for this class, you’ll find a “**Checklist of Natural Abilities.**” Take time to:

- 1- Scan the list** of skills or aptitudes (such as organizing, repairing, public relations, landscaping, etc.)
- 2- Check off** those that resonate with you, even if you haven’t used them in a church context yet.
- 3- Pick your top three**

a- _____
b- _____
c- _____

Record them on your “What’s My D.E.S.I.G.N.?” form.

4- Other jobs or skills I have experience in:

5- The one thing I do best:

Record this one thing on your “What’s My D.E.S.I.G.N.?” form.

Why This Matters: Recognizing your natural abilities can unlock new ways to serve the Body of Christ. As **Romans 12:6-8** encourages, we each do best when we operate in accordance with the grace God has given us, whether that’s showing mercy, leading diligently, or performing tasks that might seem routine but are vital to kingdom growth.

God authored every detail of your DNA (**Jeremiah 1:5**). The abilities you bring to the table — whether discovered or still hidden — have the potential to strengthen the Church when harnessed for His glory. By combining your natural aptitudes with your spiritual gifts, experiences, and heartfelt desires, you form a rich tapestry for kingdom impact, serving effectively and finding joy in the process.

D.E.S.I.G.N. PART 6:
GROWTH PHASE

Every believer is on a spiritual journey, progressing from infancy in Christ to increasing maturity (**Hebrews 5:13-14**). This growth phase isn't simply a matter of time spent in church or how many sermons we've heard; it involves active engagement with God's Word, the Holy Spirit, and the body of believers. As we serve and obey, our faith matures and we reflect Jesus more clearly.

"² Like newborn babies, you must crave pure spiritual milk so that you will grow into a full experience of salvation. Cry out for this nourishment" (1 Peter 2:2 | NLT)

1- Growth Results From _____

"¹⁰ For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." (Ephesians 2:10 | NLT)

While learning doctrine is vital (**2 Timothy 3:16-17**), active ministry is often where knowledge translates into wisdom and character. By exercising our gifts, we apply biblical truths in real-world settings — loving people tangibly, sharing the gospel, or shouldering responsibilities that stretch our faith.

Example: The early church in **Acts 6** chose seven faithful individuals to oversee daily food distribution. As they served, the entire community grew in unity and reached new levels of ministry impact (**Acts 6:1-7**).

2- Growth _____ Where You Are

"¹⁶ One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. ¹⁷ Jesus called out to them, 'Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!' ¹⁸ And they left their nets at once and followed him." (Mark 1:16-18 | NLT)

In Mark's Gospel, Jesus called ordinary fishermen like Simon (Peter) and Andrew to become "fishers of men." They didn't wait until they felt "spiritually advanced"; they responded immediately and learned on the go. God delights in using willing hearts — even if we're brand new to the faith or unsure of our abilities. As we yield ourselves to Him, He molds us into effective servants, step by step (**Philippians 1:6**).

Key Truth: You don't have to be a Bible scholar or a seasoned church leader to start serving. God often uses the humble beginnings of His followers, transforming them through hands-on discipleship (**Matthew 4:19**).

3- Acquire _____, Not Just _____

"¹⁷ Now that you know these things, God will bless you for doing them." (John 13:17 | NLT)

Information alone — no matter how sound or inspiring — becomes transformative only when it's obeyed. True spiritual growth, therefore, involves doing the Word (**James 1:22**). Serving

in ministry provides endless opportunities to live out what we've learned in Scripture, turning knowledge into wisdom.

Practical Example: Suppose you've studied about compassion. Serving at a local food pantry or organizing a meal outreach turns that lesson into a lived reality. As you connect with those in need, your empathy and understanding deepen, fulfilling Jesus' teaching in *Matthew 25:35-40*.

PERSONAL PROFILE – GROWTH PHASE

A significant factor in your growth phase is how and where you can consistently serve right now. Take some time to:

- 1- Pray and Reflect:** Ask the Lord to show you the best role(s) where you can invest your time and abilities (*Proverbs 3:5-6*).
- 2- Answer these questions:**
I have been a Christian since: _____
How many hours can you realistically commit to ministry each week? _____ hours per week
Record this on your "What's My D.E.S.I.G.N.?" form.
- 3- Share With Leaders:** Let your church mentor or ministry coordinator know your availability so they can help align you with a ministry that complements your gifts, passions, and schedule.

Why This Matters: Ministry flourishes when commitment is sustainable. It's better to serve faithfully within your realistic capacity than to overextend and burn out (*Galatians 6:9*). Your consistent involvement will enrich both your own walk with Christ and the fellowship of believers around you.

Conclusion

Your Growth Phase is not merely about how long you've been a believer, but about ongoing obedience, willingness to learn, and practical service. As you put your spiritual gifts, desires, experiences, abilities, and individual style into action, the Lord will continue to mature you, shaping you into an increasingly effective servant leader in His kingdom. This process cements your faith, demonstrating that true growth emerges when biblical truths intersect with real-life application.



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