

Back to the Future Church

God Shaped Us for Service

October 25, 2009 – Jeff Gunn

⁸For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹not by works, so that no one can boast. ¹⁰For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. (Ephesians 2:8-10, NIV)

The church is the _____ of Christ. We are the hands and the feet and the ears and the eyes of Jesus.

²⁷Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it. (1 Corinthians 12:27, NIV)

¹³For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. ¹⁵My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, ¹⁶your eyes saw my unformed body. (Psalm 139:13-16, NIV)

¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come. ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation: ¹⁹that God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ, not counting men's sins against them. (2 Corinthians 5:17-19, NIV)

1. God shaped me as his work of _____.

¹⁹For what I do is not the good I want to do; no the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. (Romans 7:19, NIV)

I am a _____ person in the hands of an extraordinary God:

³³"It is God who arms me with strength and makes my way perfect. ³⁴He makes my feet like the feet of a deer; he enables me to stand on the heights. ³⁵He trains my hands for battle; my arms can bend a bow of bronze. ³⁶You give me your shield of victory; you stoop down to make me great. (2 Samuel 22:33-36, NIV)

2. God shaped me to do _____ things.

Some people create a mental _____ of tasks.

- Don't underestimate the importance of a small task or change.
- Don't hesitate to take up the challenge of doing great things for God.

⁴There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. (1 Corinthians 12:4, NIV)

S = _____

⁷Each man should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. (2 Corinthians 9:7, NIV)

H = _____

¹⁷If the whole body were an eye, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole body were an ear, where would the sense of smell be? (1 Corinthians 12:17, NIV)

A = _____

³⁶Joseph, a Levite from Cyprus, whom the apostles called Barnabas (which means Son of Encouragement), ³⁷sold a field he owned and brought the money and put it at the apostles' feet. (Acts 4:36-37, NIV)

P = _____

¹⁶But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life. (1 Timothy 1:16, NIV)

E = _____

3. God shaped up good things for me to _____.

My next steps in the "Cross-Walk":

- Read Psalm 139 each morning this week. Pray and meditate on the words you find there before you leave for work.
- Take a moment to reflect this week on your SHAPE. Get a pen and paper and write down some observations about yourself.
- Meditate on and memorize Ephesians 2:8-10.