

Shaped for Sharing

I Peter 4:10, 11
Pastor Dave Bennett

Introduction – You are one of a kind!

Spiritual gifts
Hearth
Abilities
Personality
Experiences

I. The Treasure We Have Received

- A. Given to each one
I Corinthians 2:7,11
- B. An expression of God's grace
Ephesians 2:8,9
charisma = gift
charis = grace
- C. Intended for service
diakoneo = to serve
- D. Given in many colors
- E. A matter of stewardship

II. The Variety of Ways To Share It

We believe that as followers of Jesus we have been sent into the world to be his witnesses, to tell the good news of forgiveness and new life through him. We believe that our first responsibility, and best opportunity, in sharing the good news is within the natural relationship networks of our daily lives. We believe that persuasive words and loving actions cannot be separated. Both are reflections of the love that inspired God to send Jesus into the world.

- A. Examples from Jesus
Mark 1:17; John 20:21
Mark 8:22-26; 9:27-31; Mark 10:46-52; John 9:1-6
- B. Examples from the Early Church

III. Sharing through Your Shape

Six evangelistic styles:
Confrontational
Intellectual
Testimonial
Relational
Invitational

Daily Bible Readings

March 16-22

Follow-Throughs

Look at the variety of ways by which Jesus and his followers communicated the good news. What situations did they use as bridges? How did they shape their message and their approach to different individuals and groups?

Which of the six evangelistic styles seem to fit you best? Ask the Lord to give you some encounters with people this week through which you can express the love of Jesus, and can be a good steward of the particular "SHAPE" he has given you.

Monday **John 3:1-21**

Tuesday **John 4:1-42**

Wednesday **John 9:1-41**

Thursday **Acts 8:26-40**

Friday **Acts 17:1-34**

Warm-Ups

Saturday **Acts 18:1-4**

How did Paul establish relationships when he came to the city of Corinth? What opportunities has God given you to meet people in your present circumstances? Is there any way that you might enlarge your network of relationships to include more who do not yet know Jesus? Pray for those in your networks who do not yet know Jesus personally, and ask God for direction concerning anything he might want you to do or to say.

Sunday **Acts 18:5-11**

Why might Paul have been concerned about the situation in Corinth? How did God encourage Paul? Pray for the people in our area, and in your own town, whom the Lord is calling to himself, but who have not yet responded.