

USING YOUR ABILITIES

1 Samuel 17:34-40

³⁴ But David said to Saul, "Your servant has been keeping his father's sheep. When a lion or a bear came and carried off a sheep from the flock, ³⁵ I went after it, struck it and rescued the sheep from its mouth. When it turned on me, I seized it by its hair, struck it and killed it. ³⁶ Your servant has killed both the lion and the bear; this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, because he has defied the armies of the living God. ³⁷ The Lord who delivered me from the paw of the lion and the paw of the bear will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine."

Saul said to David, "Go, and the Lord be with you."

³⁸ Then Saul dressed David in his own tunic. He put a coat of armor on him and a bronze helmet on his head. ³⁹ David fastened on his sword over the tunic and tried walking around, because he was not used to them.

"I cannot go in these," he said to Saul, "because I am not used to them." So he took them off. ⁴⁰ Then he took his staff in his hand, chose five smooth stones from the stream, put them in the pouch of his shepherd's bag and, with his sling in his hand, approached the Philistine.

"[God's] hands shaped me and made me." Job 10:8

Spiritual gifts
Heart
Abilities
Personality
Experiences

WHY ARE MY ABILITIES IMPORTANT?

1. GOD GAVE ME ABILITIES

Then Moses said to the Israelites, "See, the Lord has chosen Bezalel son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, ability and knowledge in all kinds of crafts— to make artistic designs for work in gold, silver and bronze, to cut and set stones, to

work in wood and to engage in all kinds of artistic craftsmanship." Exodus 35:30-33

"And he has given both him and Oholiab son of Ahisamach, of the tribe of Dan, the ability to teach others." Exodus 35:34

"But remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you the ability to produce wealth..." Deuteronomy 8:18

2. MY SET OF ABILITIES ARE _____ TO ME

David's example: 1 Samuel 17:39-40

3. I AM TO USE MY ABILITIES FOR GOD'S _____

David's example: 1 Samuel 17:37

HOW DO I USE MY ABILITIES FOR GOD?

1. _____ MY ABILITIES

"For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment..." Romans 12:3

David's example: 1 Samuel 17:34-35

2. DISCOVER HOW I CAN _____ USE THEM FOR GOD

"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. It is the Lord Christ you are serving." Colossians 3:23-24

HOW TO DISCOVER YOUR MOTIVATED ABILITIES

Look over your list of accomplishments again. Circle all verbs that denote actions performed while you were doing each achievement. Now compare those verbs to the list below and check those abilities you feel you have.

26 SPECIALIZED ABILITIES

Entertaining ability: to perform, act, dance, speak, magic

Recruiting ability: to enlist and motive people to get involved

Interview ability: to discover what others are really like

Researching ability: to read, gather information, collect data

Artistic ability: to conceptualize, picture, draw, paint, photograph, or make renderings

Graphics ability: to lay out, design, create visual displays or banners

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 involved

Counseling ability: to listen, encourage and guide with sensitivity

Teaching ability: to explain, train, demonstrate, tutor

Writing ability: to write articles, letters, books

Editing ability: to proofread or rewrite

Promoting ability: to advertise or promote events and activities

Repairing ability: to fix, restore, maintain

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 customers with care and courtesy

Welcoming ability: to convey warmth, develop rapport, making others feel comfortable

Composing ability: to write music or lyrics

Landscaping ability: to do gardening and work with plants

Decorating ability: to beautify a setting for a special event

List your specialized abilities on your PERSONAL SHAPE PROFILE