

HIGH FIVE!

Mighty in Function

INTRODUCTION

God has given spiritual offices & leaders to the Church to equip believers towards spiritual maturity in 5 important areas:

- In Function (how we operate)
- In Faith (who & what we believe)
- In Fullness (what we experience in Christ)
- In Fortitude (how strong is our defense)
- In Fit (who we are connected to; our alignment with others)

Today I will talk about being **Mighty in Function**

STORY - Growing up as a kid, I utilized all of my personality, relational skills, and natural talents for my own glory.

- At age 18, when the Spirit of God touched my life and convicted my heart of my sins, I gave my life to Jesus Christ fully! It was then that I realized that I had a purpose, a calling; a reason to truly live.

Question: How do you grow from a life that is pointless to a life that's on point?

When we function in Christ we will experience 3 F:

- **F**un, **F**ulfillment, and at times, **F**rustration.

- "If you're going to be frustrated you might as well be frustrated doing work for Christ."

- "Once you understand that frustration will come and go, then you can actually enjoy the other two Fs: fun and fulfilling."

F.U.N. = Finding Your Niche

“When you find your niche for Christ and serve in it, you will experience a life of purpose and perspective, one of power and promise. Your life won’t be perfect but it will have a purpose.”

“When you live a life that’s on-point, you will produce two things: you’ll produce fruit and you’ll please God. A two-fold outcome.”

“When you think about living a life of purpose, think about living a life ‘on-point.’”

Question: Ask yourself, Am I producing fruit? Am I pleasing God?

“God desires that every believer...is that they would become fruitful.”

“Faithfulness plus fruitfulness equals a functional faith.”

Ephesians 4:11-12 NIV84

So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

“When you use your gifts to serve the Lord so that the body of Christ is being “built up” as stated in v.12, edified, lifted, inspired, you ARE producing fruit! The fruit of working for Christ and functioning for Him is that OTHERS are being built up.”

“Your gifts that God has given you are **NOT** for you, they are to build others up!”

- When others are edified, you are producing fruit
- When others are edified, you are pleasing God
- When others are edified, you are living on-point

Question: What are you doing to edify other people?

Question: How are you using your gifts, your talents, your resources to lift other people up and build them up toward their maturity and mightiness in Christ?

Ephesians 4:16 NIV84

From him [Christ] the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

“We are called to work for Christ not just FOR others, but WITH others!”

Question: How is your work doing WITH others? How is your ministry doing WITH others?

Work for Christ is not about ME but about WE!

Luke 5:4-7 NIV84

When he [Christ] had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.” ⁵ Simon answered, “Master, we’ve worked hard all night and haven’t caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets.” ⁶When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break. ⁷ So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them, and they came and filled both boats so full that they began to sink.

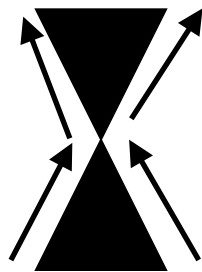
“More miracles means more work.”

Question: How do you Find Ur Niche?

Question: “What are my best gifts for my greatest impact?”

Illustration:

If you **FIRST** focus all you are doing & energy to a specific purpose like to the top of the bottom triangle...



...**THEN** when you hit the tipping point in the middle, then the impact of all of your doing and energy multiplies beyond your effort.

1 Peter 4:10 NIV84

Each one should use **WHATEVER** gift he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms.

Colossians 3:23 NIV84

WHATEVER you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men...

*"WHATEVER you do" (That's the **WHAT**)*

*"Work at it with all your heart" (That's the **HOW**)*

*"As working for the Lord" (That's the **WHO**)*

*"Not for men" (That's the **WHO NOT**)*

5 PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

1. Take the **SHAPE seminar** to Discover your gifts and how to leverage them October 9, 2021

S.H.A.P.E. stands for your **S**piritual gifts, **H**eart, **A**bilities, **P**ersonality, and **E**xperiences (*an acronym originating with Rick Warren, pastor & author of the Purpose Driven Life*)

2. Talk to people in your life who know you and ask them: What do you think are my "Best gifts that will have the greatest impact"?
3. Take the **CliftonStrengths Assessment** and discover what your top 5 Strengths are!

<https://store.gallup.com/c/en-us/assessments#catcs>

80% of what you do ought to be in your strength areas

Talk to Frank Eastham and/or Stephanie Farnsworth if you'd like to learn more about Strengths frank.eastham@bridgeway.cc
stephanie.farnsworth@bridgeway.cc

4. Try writing a **Personal Mission Statement**

DA's is 8 words: *"To Positively Influence For Christ everyone, everywhere, everytime."*)

A personal mission statement is there to inspire you personally, no one else.

5. **Take the "30 hours Volunteer Service Challenge"**

Go to Bridgeway.cc/thirty and join that group of others who have committed to serving.

We have a Challenge Champion that will spur you on to good works

CONCLUSION

Allow me to leave you with a final verse of encouragement:

1 Corinthians 15:58 ESV

Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.