

## Small Group Study: Discovering Your S.H.A.P.E.

### Memory Verse: Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)

*“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.”*

### *This Weeks Special Bible Reading Meditation: Psalm 139*

(Read the word everyday this week)

Discuss **Ephesians 2:10** as a group and how it relates to your individual lives.

1. How does it make you feel that God sees you as a masterpiece?

Year ago I had the opportunity to go to Italy on a music tour mission trip. While on the trip we had opportunity to observe the beautiful art work in Rome. Along with the many amazing statues and wonderful fountains are Mosaic paintings. When you look at a Mosaic painting you will notice it is made up of many small chips of different shades and colors. If you look very closely you will see that the chips are not really that attractive by themselves and yet as you step back and look at the Mosaic as a whole you will notice a beautiful masterpiece. Our lives are like that. God uses every touch and circumstance in your life to paint a beautiful masterpiece according to His will. You are being formed the way He has desired to form you. Everything in you is beautiful.

David Crowder wrote a song the chorus goes like this. “You make everything glorious, you make everything glorious, you make everything glorious and I am yours, what does that make me?”

You are God’s masterpiece and you will glorify Him just as He has molded you.

2. What specific events have happened in your life that as you look back now you can see how God was shaping your life for His purpose?

Let people share.

God has placed me in specific jobs and ministry situations that have led me to minister into others lives and become a teacher and mentor. God has given me a desire to teach and used many opportunities to use this desire. I realize He has molded me for His purpose.

3. What might be the good things God wants to achieve through you?

Let people share. Be prepared to share how God is leading you to encourage others.

4. **Read Jeremiah 18:1-6.** How does understanding that we are clay in the potters hand help you understand that God is making you for His Kingdom purpose and you are being shaped the way He desires?

When I understand and accept that God will mold me and make me what He desires me to be I realize that I am able to be all that He needs to use me to bring Him glory.

Over the next five weeks we are going to explore how God has shaped your life for His Kingdom purpose. Rick Warren and Erik Rees have developed the understanding of our S.H.A.P.E. and in this study we will look at each of these concepts and what the Bible has to say about how God has shaped you for service.

1. **Spiritual Gifts:** A set of special abilities that God has given you so to share his love and serve others.
2. **Heart:** The special passions God has given you so that you can glorify him on earth.
3. **Abilities:** The set of talents that God gave you when you were born, which he also wants to use to make an impact for him.
4. **Personality:** The special way God has wired you to navigate life and fulfill your unique Kingdom purpose.
5. **Experiences:** Those parts of your past, both positive and painful, which God intends to use in great ways.