

Finding Your PLACE in Life and Ministry

Fall 2014: August 27 – October 1 6:30-7:30 Wednesday Room 2152A

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Class Description

PLACE is a process of self discovery and service for all Christians. Through the PLACE process, participants discover that God created them with unique personality, spiritual gifts, abilities, passions and experiences. Discovering God's purpose and plan for their lives helps members find their PLACE of service within the body of Christ.

Today more than any other time in history, people are bombarded with multiple choices as to how to give their time. They find themselves asking, "Where do I fit in?", "Why am I here?" and "What can I do to make a lasting difference in my life and the lives of others?"

God created each of us for a purpose. "For we are God's workmanship created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" (Ephesians 2:10). Part of his purpose for us is to edify the church and to serve in its ministries. "...to prepare God's people for the works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up" (Ephesians 4:12).

The PLACE process can help you discover how God has uniquely designed you, and it will help you realize His purpose for your life. You find your life as you give it away ... but first you have to know what you have to give.

Textbook

McSwain, Jay, Finding Your PLACE in Life and Ministry (Alpharetta, GA: PLACE Ministries, 2006).

Other Texts

Chapman, Gary, and Paul White, *The 5 Languages of Appreciation in the Workplace: Empowering Organizations by Encouraging People* (Chicago: Northfield Publishing, 2011).

Rath, Tom, Strengths Finder 2.0 (New York: Gallup Press, 2007).

Towns, Elmer L., and Dave Earley, *Praying for Your Job: Prosperity, Fulfillment, Happiness* (Shippensburg, PA: Destiny Image Publishers, 2011).

Schedule of Topics

Class Meeting	Topic—Activity	Book
1 8/27/14	Introduction Overview Getting to Know You What is PLACE?	
2 9/3/14	Personality Discovery Personality Definitions Making Drama and Music Together Personality Assessment Explanation of DISC through Biblical Personality Types	Session 1
3 9/10/14	Learning Spiritual Gifts Spiritual Gifts Quiz What Is a Spiritual Gift? Spiritual Gifts Assessment and Scoring Importance of Using Gifts	Session 2
4 9/17/14	Abilities Awareness Musical Chairs with Abilities Abilities Assessment What Others Say What God Says Abilities in the Bible	Session 3
5 9/24/14	Connecting Passion with Ministry Definitions of Passion Where Passion Originates How and Who Passion Is Demonstrated For Links Disconnecting Passion	Session 4
6 10/1/14	Experiences of Life Key Scripture Types of Life Experiences What Makes Experiences Different from Abilities Steps in Making the Most Out of Significant Experiences	Session 5