



November 24, 2019

Francis Chan in the *Forgotten God* wrote, “If you are still alive on this planet, it is because God has something for you to do...” Do you believe that? Are you doing it?

Our ministry flows out of our SHAPE (spiritual gifts, heart passion, abilities, personality and experiences). Read 2 Thessalonians 1:11-12. It is the Spirit who initiates ministry; our role is to listen, receive and step out in faith. A similar picture would be like a car, we need fuel. How is your tank? Do you feel like you are running on empty or are you over-flowing in the Spirit?

Jesus is our model for ministry. Read Acts 10:38. Just like Jesus, we need the presence & power of God for ministry. Jesus promised that His followers would receive the baptism/filling/anointing of the Spirit. Read Acts 1:5,8 & Acts 2:39. This promise is not only for the early Church, it is for us today for Spirit-empowered service. Do you believe that in the Spirit’s power we can serve in ministry just like Jesus or that even greater things are possible for us by the Spirit’s power through our lives?

On Sunday, Gerry described how we receive ongoingly. Firstly, *we admit our spiritual inability and weakness*. We can do earthly work but not heavenly work. Does self sufficiently, control, convenience or success ever get in your way? Share occasions when this has happened in your life. Conversely, share times where you have experienced God working through you.



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Secondly, *we surrender our entire SHAPE to Jesus' control.* Read Romans 6:13, Romans 12:1. We surrender our bodies, our minds, our wills to God. Currently, are there areas in your life you are holding back from God?

Thirdly, *we invite the Holy Spirit to fill & empower us.* Read Luke 11:13, John 3:34. We ask God to fill us. Do you need to receive a filling from the Holy Spirit? Pray for each other.

Lastly, *we commit to serve in mission with obedient faith.* Read Galatians 3:5, Acts 5:32. We continue to receive the Holy Spirit as we show our faith by obedient action. Is God calling you to a specific action? Share where you sense God wants to work through you.