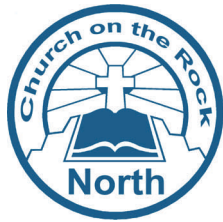
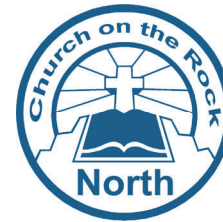


## CONNECTING TO MINISTRY



*“As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.” 1 Peter 4:10*

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**WELCOME TO  
DISCOVERING YOUR MINISTRY**

**THE GOAL OF THIS CLASS:**

That you will discover your unique design and commit to developing and using your God-given \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in serving God and other through the many ministry opportunities of your church family.

*“(God) has given... pastors and teachers to prepare God’s people for works of **ministry**, so the Body of Christ may be built up.” Eph. 4:11,12*

\* Remember...

- The pastor, staff & elders are the \_\_\_\_\_.
- The people are the primary \_\_\_\_\_.

**WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT MINISTRY**

**DEFINITION:** Greek - “diakonos” = “to serve”

**MINISTRY IS USING WHATEVER GOD HAS GIVEN YOU TO SERVE HIM AND THE NEEDS OF OTHERS!**

**UNDERGIRDING PRINCIPLE**

Your ministry is determined by your \_\_\_\_\_.

What God made you to \_\_\_\_\_ determines what He intends for you to \_\_\_\_\_! We understand our created purpose when we understand how we were created. This is the secret to better understanding God’s ministry purpose for your life.

**At COTRN we focus on the \_\_\_\_\_ approach to ministry rather than the \_\_\_\_\_ approach.**

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## WE MINISTER TO THREE AREAS OF NEED

- **To people's \_\_\_\_\_ needs.**  
*"(God says) I was hungry and you fed Me...thirsty and you gave Me drink...needed clothes and you clothed Me...sick and you cared for Me...in prison and you visited Me...Whenever you have done this to the least person, you did it to Me." Matt. 25:35,36,40*
- **To people's \_\_\_\_\_ needs.**  
*"...Warn the idle, encourage the timid, help the weak, be patient with all." 1 Thess. 5:14*
- **To people's \_\_\_\_\_ needs.**  
*"God reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation." 2 Cor. 5:18*

### WHY MAKE MINISTRY TOP PRIORITY?

1. **YOU'VE BEEN \_\_\_\_\_ FOR MINISTRY!**  
*"For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."  
Eph. 2:10*
2. **YOU'VE BEEN \_\_\_\_\_ FOR MINISTRY!**  
*"It is He who saved us and chose us for His holy work..."  
2 Tim 1:9*
3. **YOU'VE BEEN \_\_\_\_\_ FOR MINISTRY!**  
*"God, in His grace, chose me even before I was born, and called me to serve Him." Gal. 1:15  
Also reference Eph. 4:1 & 1 Pet. 2:9,10*
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**5. YOU'VE BEEN \_\_\_\_\_ TO MINISTER!**

*“Take heed to the ministry you’ve received from the Lord and fulfill it.” Col. 4:17 Also...Matt. 28:19,20*

**6. YOU'RE TO BE \_\_\_\_\_ FOR MINISTRY!**

*“God gave...pastors and teachers to prepare God’s people for works of ministry...” Eph. 4:11,12*

**7. THE CHURCH \_\_\_\_\_ YOUR MINISTRY!**

*“All of you together are the Body of Christ and each of you is a separate and necessary part of it.” 1 Cor. 12:27*

**8. YOU ARE \_\_\_\_\_ FOR YOUR MINISTRY!**

*“So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God.”  
Rom. 14:12*

**9. YOU WILL BE \_\_\_\_\_ FOR MINISTRY!**

*“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not men, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward.” Col. 3:23,24*

**1 CORINTHIANS 12:1-31**

From this great illustration of the church being like the body, we learn...

- Every member is a \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ’s Body.
- Every member has a \_\_\_\_\_ function.
- Every member’s ministry is \_\_\_\_\_.
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**UNDERSTANDING YOUR UNIQUE S.H.A.P.E.**

*"Your hands formed and shaped me..." Job 10:8a*

**S** \_\_\_\_\_  
*"...Each man has his own gift from God..." 1 Cor. 7:7b*

**WHAT ARE YOU GIFTED TO DO?**

**H** \_\_\_\_\_  
*"For it is God who works in you, inspiring both the will and the deed, for His own chosen purpose." Phil. 2:13*

**WHAT DO YOU LOVE TO DO?**

**A** \_\_\_\_\_  
*"There are different abilities to perform service..." 1 Cor. 12:6*

**WHAT NATURAL TALENTS DO YOU HAVE?**

**P** \_\_\_\_\_  
*"No one can really know what anyone else is thinking or what he is really like, except that person himself." 1 Cor. 2:11*

**WHERE DOES YOUR PERSONALITY  
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## WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT SPIRITUAL GIFTS

*“Now about spiritual gifts I do not want you to be ignorant.”*

**1 Cor. 12:1**

**A SPIRITUAL GIFT:** a special ability or abilities, given by the Holy Spirit to every believer to be used to minister to others and therefore, build up the Body of Christ.

### THE PURPOSE OF SPIRITUAL GIFTS

**A. NOT FOR MY BENEFIT, BUT FOR \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“Each one of you, as a good manager of God’s different gifts, must use **for the good of others**, the spiritual gift he has received from God.”* 1 Peter 4:10

**B. TO PRODUCE \_\_\_\_\_ AND \_\_\_\_\_ IN OUR CHURCH FAMILY.**

*“It was He who ‘gave gifts to men ...to build up the Body of Christ so we shall all come together to that oneness in our faith... and become mature... Then we shall no longer be children, carried by the waves and blown about by every shifting wind...”*  
Eph. 4:11, 13-14 (GN)

### UNWRAPPING MY GIFTS

The two major lists of gifts are found in (*Romans 12:3-8, I Cor. 12:1-11, 27-31*). To best understand spiritual gifts, we will break them down into two major categories.

- \_\_\_\_\_ **GIFTS (Rom. 12:3-8)**  
*(we’ll look at these when we look to our HEART in part 2)*
- \_\_\_\_\_ **GIFTS (I Cor. 12:1-11, 27-31)**

IT’S EASIER TO DISCOVER YOUR GIFTS \_\_\_\_\_  
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**UNDERSTANDING SPIRITUAL GIFTS  
(I Cor 12:7-11)**

There are \_\_\_\_\_ spiritual gifts listed in I Cor 12.

They are best understood broken down into 3 categories.

**A) REVELATION GIFTS** - Gifts that \_\_\_\_\_ something.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Supernatural insight into the true nature of things not gained by study or service.)
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Supernatural revelation of certain established facts not learned by natural means.)
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Supernatural ability to determine the spirit behind a person or persons, both good and evil.)

**B) POWER GIFTS** - Gifts that \_\_\_\_\_ something.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
(A complete assurance of God's absolute ability, willingness and intention to act in a given situation.)
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
(The God given supernatural ability to reverse or suspend natural laws in specific situations.)
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
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**C. INSPIRATION GIFTS** - Gifts that \_\_\_\_\_ something.

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
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3. \_\_\_\_\_ of tongues.  
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From the list above, which gifts do you believe to be operating in your life? List them \_\_\_\_\_

From I Cor 14:1, what did Paul say should be our attitude concerning spiritual gifts? \_\_\_\_\_

**MONITORING YOUR HEARTBEAT**

The Bible uses the term “heart” to represent the center of your motivation, desires, and inclinations.

*“Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart.” Psalm 27:4*

**Our heart determines...**

- **Why we \_\_\_\_\_ the things we do**  
*“The mouth speaks what the heart is full of.” Matt. 12:34*
- **Why we \_\_\_\_\_ the way we do**  
*“The Word of God examines the thoughts and motives of the heart.” Heb. 4:12*
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**DISCOVER YOUR MOTIVATIONAL GIFT**  
*(Rom 12:3-8)*

1. **PROPHECY** -The motivation to reveal the true nature of man by speaking God’s truth through love.
2. **SERVING** - The motivation to demonstrate love by meeting practical needs.
3. **TEACHING**- The motivation to search out and validate truth which has been presented.
4. **EXHORTATION**- The motivation to stimulate and build up the faith of others.
5. **GIVING** - The motivation to entrust personal assets to others for the expansion of God’s kingdom in the earth.
6. **LEADERSHIP**- The motivation to coordinate and administrate the activities of others for the achievement of kingdom purposes.
7. **MERCY** - The motivation to identify with and bring comfort to those who are in distress.

Every believer normally moves and operates through **ONE** primary motivational gift.

Notice 1 Peter 4:10 is singular in number.  
*“...as every man hath received the gift,  
even so minister the same one to another.”*

All believers will perform all seven activities but normally through one basic motivation.

From the list of seven motivational gifts, which one do you feel is your primary motivation? \_\_\_\_\_?

**RECOMMENDED READING:**  
**“Now, Discover your Strengths” Marcus Buckingham, Author**

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## APPLYING MY ABILITIES

***“There are different abilities to perform service.” 1 Cor. 12:6***

*“I (God)... have given him skill, ability, and knowledge in all kinds of crafts...” Exodus 31:3*

One of the most common excuses people give for not getting involved in ministry is “I just don’t have any abilities to offer.” Nothing could be further from the truth.

**The key is matching your abilities with the right ministry.**

### A FEW FOR THOUGHT...

- **Artistic, Planning, Counseling, Teaching, Writing, Technology, Managing, Promotion, Repairing, Mechanical, Mathematical, Decorating, Welcoming, Music, Organizational etc...**

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## PLUGGING IN TO YOUR PERSONALITY

- God has wired your temperament in a unique way. This factor is very important in matching you to the right ministry.
- Example - outgoing - greeters!

Here's a simple little test just to get you to thinking about your personality and how it could impact your ministry.  
How do you see yourself? Circle one and rate yourself

### INTROVERTED OR EXTROVERTED

Extreme - average - mild

### SELF CONTROLLED OR SELF-EXPRESSED

Extreme - average - mild

### ROUTINE OR VARIETY

Extreme - average - mild

### THINKER OR FEELER

Extreme - average - mild

### COOPERATIVE OR COMPETITIVE

Extreme - average - mild

Be careful not to confuse relational or emotional weakness with personality. \* Ex. - Timidity isn't necessarily a personality trait.

## EXAMINING YOUR EXPERIENCES

*"And we know that all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose."*  
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*"Now I want you to know brothers, that what happened to me has really served to advance the gospel."* Phil. 1:12

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## FOUR IMPORTANT AREAS OF EXPERIENCE

- **Your Past \_\_\_\_\_ Experiences**  
Meaningful decisions and times with God.
- **Your Past \_\_\_\_\_ Experiences**  
Problems, hurts, trials, that have taught valuable lessons

**GOD NEVER WASTES A \_\_\_\_\_.**

*“(God)... wonderfully comforts and strengthens us in our hardships and trials. And why does He do this? So that when others are troubled, needing our sympathy and encouragement, we can pass on to them the same help and comfort God has given us.” 2 Cor. 1:3,4*

- **Your Past \_\_\_\_\_ Experiences**  
What were your favorite subjects?
- **Your Past \_\_\_\_\_ Experiences**  
How have you served in the past?

## COTR NORTH MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

**GREETERS:** Welcomes members and visitors to the regular services and special services with a greeting and a church bulletin. Assist head greeter by filling bulletins with special announcement inserts periodically.

**MEDIA MINISTRY:** A computer-oriented ministry team working to assist the pastoral and worship teams in visually communicating truth through Power Point and multimedia presentations.

**WORSHIP CHOIR:** A group of singers who lead the congregation in praise and worship.

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**WORSHIP CHOIR:** A group of singers who lead the congregation in praise and worship.

**PRAISE BAND:** A group of rhythm musicians such as a pianist, keyboardist, bassist, guitarist, and drummer who form the foundation of our worship service.

**PRISON & JAIL MINISTRY:** A weekly outreach to the incarcerated men & women of Jefferson & Hardin County as well as special times to the inmates in the area state penitentiaries.

**USHERS:** Working with other ushers during our church services to seat the members. Help with offering, distributing envelopes and offering buckets. Distribute first time visitor cards. Help prepare and serve communion on Communion Sunday.

**HOSPITALITY:** This on-going ministry provides meals for members when there is a funeral, illness, or birth. Volunteers prepare and deliver food to homes or designated sites.

**SOUND MINISTRY:** Working with the worship leader and Praise band to blend the instruments and voices. Also to record the services for the tape ministry to duplicate for the church.

**HOUSEKEEPING/GROUNDS:** Volunteers will work under the direction of our facilities staff to assist in the cleaning and maintenance of our building and grounds.

**YOUTH SPONSOR:** Those adults who would be able to help the Youth Pastor oversee the various activities and functions that the teens participate in.

**PRE-SERVICE PRAYER TEAM:** A group of committed prayer warriors who meet Sunday mornings to pray for “good success” in the morning ministry.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH:** These opportunities include numerous outreaches to nursing homes, the needy, as well as ministry in the local city parks.

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**HOSPITALITY:** This on-going ministry provides meals for members when there is a funeral, illness, or birth. Volunteers prepare and deliver food to homes or designated sites.

**SOUND MINISTRY:** Working with the worship leader and Praise band to blend the instruments and voices. Also to record the services for the tape ministry to duplicate for the church.

**HOUSEKEEPING/GROUNDS:** Volunteers will work under the direction of our facilities staff to assist in the cleaning and maintenance of our building and grounds.

**YOUTH SPONSOR:** Those adults who would be able to help the Youth Pastor oversee the various activities and functions that the teens participate in.

**PRE-SERVICE PRAYER TEAM:** A group of committed prayer warriors who meet Sunday mornings to pray for “good success” in the morning ministry.

**COMMUNITY OUTREACH:** These opportunities include numerous outreaches to nursing homes, the needy, as well as ministry in the local city parks.

**HOME GROUPS:** This ministry involves providing a home atmosphere for small groups to meet for the purpose of fellowship, worship, prayer and the ministry of the Word.

**FOUNDATIONS FOR LIVING:** Our Wednesday night format provides throughout the year opportunities to facilitate pre approved teaching series for specific groups such as College & Career, Ladies, Couples, etc...

**FIRST WEDNESDAY MEALS:** Every first Wednesday COTRN provides a light meal for the family. This ministry involves assistance in supplying and serving one or more of these meals throughout the calendar year.

### **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

**NURSERY:** (Birth - 23 months) Nursery care is available for all services. The nursery workers emphasize love, teaching and caring, as the primary goal and priority.

**TWO'S AND THREE'S MINISTRY:** These classes are normally offered for both age groups at all service times. Baby-sitting is kept to a minimum and teaching to a maximum as the teachers and assistants teach curriculum created to build lasting foundations in our younger children.

**PRE-SCHOOL MINISTRY:** Classes for the four and five year olds are taught by trained teachers and assistants the word of God by Bible lessons, flannel graphs, hands-on activities, puppets, stories, music and much more. Classes are on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights, with the exception of the 1st Sunday of each month when the children stay in "Big Church" with their parents.

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**KID'S CHURCH:** (1st - 6th Grades) Kid's Church on Sundays and classes on Wednesdays provide Bible teaching from Genesis to Revelation. Training kids in God's word and Bible memorization is a priority. Music, puppets, object lessons, drama and games make Kid's Church a fun and exciting place to be. Ministry is a must as well as teaching children to minister to one another.

**HALLELUJAH NIGHT:** Instead of Halloween, this alternative is offered for the children and their families. Each year a theme is created, with booths and games created accordingly. Many volunteers work together decorating, building, painting, running booths, concessions and more. This night is also an evangelical outreach to our community.

**EASTER OUTREACH:** The Saturday before Easter or following the Easter Sunday Service, the children's ministry hosts a community wide Easter Egg Outreach. Every year, children and adults alike are presented the gospel in a simple and relevant way with many making commitments to Christ.

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL:** VBS is a week every summer that kids really look forward to. Each year creative volunteers work together, decorating, planning, and preparing to develop a week kids will always remember.

**KID'S CAMP:** Each summer's highlight is Kid's Camp! It is designed for 1st grade graduated through 6th grade. Each year's theme is always prayed over and carefully planned. The camp is designed to create non-stop fun, activities, recreation, crafts, and great Bible teaching with dramas, puppets, object lessons and so much more. Camp counselors take part in helping teach as well as care for the kids. Our goals are to provide not only fun, but quality teaching and to equip the kids with tools they need to grow mighty in God!

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## **DEVELOPING A HEART TO SERVE**

### **MY MINISTRY COMMITMENT**

Having committed myself to the habits essential for spiritual maturity, as well as a commitment to church membership as outlined in “Connecting to Your Church Family”, and agreeing with the Church on the Rock North Ministry Statement, I commit to ...

- Discover my unique shape for ministry and serve in the area that best expresses what God made me to be.
- Demonstrate a servant’s heart by serving in secondary ministries as the Body needs me.
- Cooperate with other ministries and place the greater good of the whole Body over the needs of my ministry.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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