

MENTOR GUIDE

MODULE 2: SELF-DISCOVERY & STEWARDSHIP

INTRODUCTION



In this module, **Becca Knudsen** teaches you how to discover how God has intentionally created you and what that means for your leadership in your church and, more significantly, in God’s Kingdom. Becca serves as the Executive Pastor for the Mile High Vineyard churches in Denver.



Then, **Amber George** will teach you about stewardship—how to use what God has entrusted you with and how faithful stewardship enhances your relationships with others and God. Amber currently serves as the Executive Pastor at Crossroads Church in Fredericksburg, VA.

These two sessions will help you answer two central questions:

1. How has God specially shaped me to lead?
2. How do I faithfully steward what God has given me?

SESSION 1: SELF-DISCOVERY

Video Notes

- 1. You are uniquely made with specific spiritual gifts.** God has given you spiritual gifts because He loves you and created you to use your gifts for others (1 Corinthians 12; Romans 12; Ephesians 4).
- 2. Your church needs you to discover your gifts to function at a higher level.** Everyone in a church has been created with gifts and abilities to use for the good of the church. When only a small percentage uses their gifts in the church, the church's health suffers.
- 3. SHAPE is a helpful acronym for beginning to explore your God-given gifts.** S - Spiritual Gifts; H - Heart; A - Abilities; P - Personality; E - Experiences.
- 4. Gifts are what you learn by serving, not just thinking or self-discovery.** As you explore your gifts you discover more about God, yourself, and the world around you.

SESSION 1: SELF-DISCOVERY

Participant Reflection Questions

After watching the video, participants will answer or journal the following questions for reflection. Feel free to utilize these questions for discussion at your next Coaching Session.

1. On a scale of 1-10 (1 = very unfamiliar; 10 = incredibly familiar), how would you rate your understanding of your own spiritual gifts? Why did you choose that number?
2. Becca said that, on average, 20% of the people in churches do 80% of the work. This means that the majority of the people in the average church do not understand and operate in their spiritual gifts. Would you say this is true in your church? Why or why not?
3. As you heard Becca describe the acronym SHAPE - Spiritual Gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality, Experiences - and share some of her story, what resonated with you? What of your gifts, heart, abilities, personality, or experiences came to mind as you listened?
4. When you think of discovering more of your spiritual gifting and abilities, what excites you? What makes you anxious or gives you doubts?

SESSION 2: STEWARDSHIP

Reflection Questions

1. How does the knowledge that you are a steward impact your decisions and actions?
2. How are you managing what God has entrusted to you? What, if anything, do you need to do differently? Write down 1-2 areas in your life that you think you are stewarding well and 1-2 areas that you need to surrender ownership back to God.
3. How are you managing what God has entrusted to you? What, if anything, do you need to do differently? Write down 1-2 areas in your life that you think you are stewarding well and 1-2 areas that you need to surrender ownership back to God.
4. How might your life change if you allowed God to direct all areas of your life (time, talent, and treasure)?
5. What is the Holy Spirit saying to you about Kingdom living through this session?

SESSION 2: STEWARDSHIP

Video Notes

- 1. God owns it all.** "The earth is the Lord's, and everything in it. The world and all its people belong to him." Psalm 24:1 NLT
- 2. We are his faithful stewards.** Stewardship is our minute-by-minute, decision-by-decision opportunity to partner with God on everything he wants to do.
- 3. God must come first.** "Seek first the Kingdom of God above all else, and live righteously, and he will give you everything you need." Matthew 6:33 NLT.
- 4. Contentment is key.** "Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it. So, if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content." 1 Timothy 6:6-8 NLT
- 5. We are created to be generous.** "For God is the one who provides seed for the farmer and then bread to eat. In the same way, he will provide and increase your resources and then produce a great harvest of generosity in you. Yes, you will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous." 2 Corinthians 9:10-11 NLT
- 6. Conclusion: it's all about relationships.**

SESSION 2: STEWARDSHIP

Additional Resources

- ["Financial Discipleship: Investing in Eternity"](#) by Peter J. Briscoe
- ["The Treasure Principle: Unlocking the Secret of Joyful Giving"](#) by Randy Alcorn
- ["God and Money: How We Discovered True Riches at Harvard Business School"](#) by John Cortines and Gregory Baumer
- ["Gospel Patrons: People Whose Generosity Changed the World"](#) by John Rinehart
- [Christian Stewardship Network](#) – articles, videos, and a podcast all created to inspire you to pursue the truths about living in financial freedom and sharing these plain truths with those that you are leading

ACTIVATION ASSIGNMENT

Put This Into Practice

Participants will answer the following questions on a digital form and will be asked to send their responses to you as well.

In this module, we discussed the powerful truth that, as a child of God, you have been given abilities, experiences, and resources to steward for God's Kingdom.

Before you meet with your mentor and others from your church, take some time to reflect on what you've learned about yourself.

How has God uniquely wired you, and how have your experiences shaped who you are and what you bring to your ministry role?

Then, spend some time praying. Ask God to reveal how He is inviting you to more generously offer that to your church community.

How is God leading you toward greater generosity in what He has given you?

As a way of connecting those thoughts, try completing this simple phrase:

"I believe God has shaped me in this specific way: _____
in order to minister or serve in this certain way: _____
in my church or local community"

MENTOR SESSION GUIDE

This meeting is where the gold is at! Participants will gain loads of knowledge in the virtual classroom. But the real transformation and development of VLE: Foundations will happen in the context of the time you are spending with this group, collectively and individually. So press into the relational aspect more than anything. Use this time to observe:

- Who needs encouragement to step it up a notch?
- Who needs correction?
- Who is showing signs of increasing leadership capacity?
- Who needs to be encouraged to take their next step?
- Who needs prayer or ministry?
- As you observe these things, say something at your first opportunity. Have an “ICNU” conversation – “If you see it, say it!” These moments are catalytic in the lives of those you mentor.

One more tip: don’t do all of this yourself. Begin to enlist participants to serve or lead different aspects of the coaching session. This could be leading prayer time, welcoming people at the front door, or organizing snacks and coffee.

Connection time (10 minutes). The relationships formed among VLE participants are central to the process. Avoid rushing into content at the start of the session. Instead, take a couple of minutes for participants around the circle to popcorn how their week has been, initial thoughts on the material covered, etc. This is a great opportunity to connect with participants and get the conversation warmed up.

Celebration time (10 minutes). Ask the group if they have seen God do something in their lives or ministry in the past two weeks that they'd like to share. This is an opportunity for you, the facilitator, to affirm and reinforce the good growth happening in your group.

Coaching time (40 minutes). Share with the group your own SHAPE and how the way God wired you has impacted and directed your own leadership and ministry journey. Then share how stewardship has impacted your life, based on some of the points Amber brought up in Session 2. Lessons learned (both difficult and positive) will be super helpful for those you are mentoring!

Walk through key discussion questions and activation questions from the module. Because the participants should have completed reflection questions and activation assignments in advance of this session, we encourage you to use this time to ask:

- What were some of your key takeaways from the video teaching this past week?
- What did you learn about leadership or discover about yourself from this module?
- What does that mean for your own life and work, or for your leadership of others?
- What would you do differently based on your new understanding of yourself or leadership?

Care & Prayer / Ministry Time (25 minutes). This is arguably the most important thing you can do in these sessions. In ministry time, we provide space for the work of the Holy Spirit among us. You can change this up according to the way the Spirit is moving. You could have a “Hot Seat” in the center and have the group pray for someone, you could have groups of 2 or 3 split up and pray for each other, or you can pray collectively for the group.

Communication time (5 minutes). This is the time to highlight important events, share church announcements, introduce the next module topic, and so forth.