

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

While the content we've provided will be impactful for participants, as a VLE mentor, the time you spend helping participants process will be transformative. Please use this time to make thoughtful observations and be prepared to speak into their lives. This time together will provide many opportunities to have an "ICNU (I See In You) Conversation", which will be catalytic in their growth and development! Here is a sample agenda you might consider using for your time together:

Connection (5-10 minutes). This is a great opportunity for small talk, to warm up the conversation. You can ask how their week has been, or if they have anything exciting coming up.

Celebration (5-10 minutes). Ask them 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 to affirm and reinforce the good growth that is happening.

Coaching Conversation (40 minutes). See Coaching Conversation Section on the next page. This portion will be specific to each module.

Care & Prayer (10-20 minutes). As you wrap up your time together, make space for the work of the Holy Spirit. This could look different every time, especially if you are meeting with an individual versus a group. If you are with an individual, you could ask if the Holy Spirit has brought anything to the surface for them, and then pray into that. If you are with a group, this might be an opportunity for a hot seat, or for participants to break off into pairs and pray for each other.

Closing Communication (5 minutes). This is the time to highlight the next module, important church events, or announcements, etc.

MODULE 2: COACHING CONVERSATION

Module 2: Self-Discovery & Stewardship invites participants to reflect on how God uniquely shaped them, and how they can faithfully steward what He's entrusted to them. As Becca and Amber teach, self-discovery and stewardship aren't just personal growth topics – they're foundational to leadership in the Kingdom of God.

- 1. Begin the conversation by sharing about your own SHAPE (Spiritual Gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality, and Experiences) and how God uniquely formed you for ministry.** Perhaps share some personal experiences (both good and bad) that have formed you. Your SHAPE and story will begin to unlock elements of your participants' SHAPE and story as they relate to you! Answer the prompt that was given to participants in their Activation Assignment:

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.

- 2. Now have participants share how they answered the prompt.** Have them take turns reading their statement to the whole group or in groups of 2-4. After their statement is read, allow time for others (or yourself if this is a 1:1 conversation) to affirm and bless what has been shared. This is a great opportunity for an “ICNU (I See In You) Conversation” to encourage each participant’s voice and Kingdom contribution.
- 3. Next, dig into the major themes of SHAPE and Stewardship and reflect on themes from both sessions.**

As you call out each theme, share any of your own observations about yourself before asking participants to share:

- **SHAPE (Spiritual gifts, Heart, Abilities, Personality, Experiences).** What part of SHAPE stood out most to you? What did it stir up or affirm?
- **Fear or resistance.** What excites you about discovering your gifts? What makes you hesitate?
- **Stewardship.** Amber reminded us that everything we have belongs to God. How does this idea impact your leadership? Are there areas where it's hard to release control?
- **Contentment & generosity.** What does it look like for you to live generously—not just financially, but with time, attention, or encouragement?

4. Wrapping up, let's get practical. Spend a few minutes talking about what these insights mean for the participant in their own leadership by asking:

- Where do you feel an invitation to step up or step out?
- What's one area you want to steward more faithfully—your time, energy, finances, influence, etc.?
- Where do you sense God nudging you to offer more of yourself to the life of our church, our community, and the world?
- What is one next step you can take toward that nudge from the Holy Spirit?

5. As you move into prayer and ministry time, pray into whatever has surfaced from your conversation. Use the hot seat, prayer partners, or listening prayer.

- Take some time to pray over the participant's SHAPE and stewardship journey.
- Invite the Holy Spirit to speak encouragement, healing, and clarity.