

Anyone Can Make a Difference

The CODE, Week Six

- JESUS FIRST
- MESSY MINISTRY
- PURPOSE DRIVEN
- AUTHENTIC COMMUNITY
- EVERYBODY BELONGS

ANYONE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

We grow from consumers into contributors. We bring out the best in people and refuse to use people.

People visit a church to see what it can offer them, but we want to teach you that YOU have something to offer to the church and to the world.

And we want you to be fulfilled in doing so. When someone asks, "What can I do? How can I get involved?," my response is usually, "What do you LOVE to do? What has God gifted you for?" **We want to enable you to thrive!**

We believe every believer is SHAPed for a ministry in the church and a mission in the world.

You have more to offer the world than you've even begun to imagine.

- **S** - You have a **spiritual gift**.
- **H** - You have a **heart**, a passion for certain causes.
- **A** - You have **abilities** that God has given to you.
- **P** - You have a unique **personality** that God wants to use.
- **E** - You've been through **experiences** that enable you to help others.

Our goal is not to use you for your gifts, but to empower you to use your gifts for God.

THE STORY OF GIDEON...

Judges 6:7, 11-12 NIV

[7] When the Israelites cried out to the Lord because of Midian, [11] The angel of the Lord came and sat down under the oak in Ophrah that belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, where his son Gideon was threshing wheat in a winepress to keep it from the Midianites. [12] When the angel of the Lord appeared to Gideon, he said, "The Lord is with you, mighty warrior."

- Gideon lacked status.
- He had few resources.
- He had no confidence and lived in fear.

TRUTH: God sees you as you CAN be in his power, not as you ARE on your own.

Judges 6:13 NIV

[13] "Pardon me, my lord," Gideon replied, "but if the Lord is with us, why has all this happened to us? Where are all his wonders that our ancestors told us about when they said, 'Did not the Lord bring us up out of Egypt?' But now the Lord has abandoned us and given us into the hand of Midian."

- Gideon also had doubts.

Judges 6:14-16 NIV

[14] The Lord turned to him and said, "Go in the strength you have and save Israel out of Midian's hand. Am I not sending you?" [15] "Pardon me, my lord," Gideon replied, "but how can I save Israel? My clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my family." [16] The Lord answered, "I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites, leaving none alive."

TRUTH: God can use you in spite of your weaknesses and shortcomings.

Judges 6:33-35 NIV

[33] Now all the Midianites, Amalekites and other eastern peoples joined forces and crossed over the Jordan and camped in the Valley of Jezreel. [34] Then the Spirit of the Lord came on Gideon, and he blew a trumpet, summoning the Abiezrites to follow him. [35] He sent messengers throughout Manasseh, calling them to arms, and also into Asher, Zebulun and Naphtali, so that they too went up to meet them.

TRUTH: When God calls you and shapes you, he also equips and resources you for victory.

**TRUTH: God won't make you do things like a robot.
He wants you to surrender, submit, and step out in faith.**

So, how are you gifted?

What breaks your heart?

What is God calling you to do?

What's your next step toward becoming a contributor?