

# SHAPE: FINDING YOUR DIVINE DESIGN

## Part 6: Making Your Experiences Work for You

"(God's) hands formed and shaped me." --Job 10:8 (Good News)

Spiritual gifts, Hearth, Abilities, Personality, Experiences

### I. EXPERIENCES THAT SHAPE YOU

- *Family/relational experiences*
- *Educational experiences*
- *Spiritual experiences*
- *Vocational experiences*
- *Painful experiences*

"You intended to harm me but God intended it for good."  
--Genesis 50:20

### II. GOD'S INTENTION BEHIND YOUR EXPERIENCES

"Jesus replied, 'You do not realize now what I am doing,  
but later you will understand.'  
--John 13:7

#### 1. My experiences can teach me \_\_\_\_\_

"(This happened)...so we might learn to trust,  
not in ourselves, but in God..."  
--2 Corinthians 1:9 (JB Phillips)

#### 2. My experiences can strengthen \_\_\_\_\_

"...we know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope."  
--Romans 5:4 (NIV)

#### 3. My experiences can accomplish \_\_\_\_\_

"...what has happened to me has really served to  
advance the gospel."  
--Philippians 1:12

### III. HOW'S THAT WORKING FOR YOU?

#### 1. \_\_\_\_\_ your experiences

"Did all your experience mean nothing at all?"

*Surely it means something!"*

*--Galatians 3:4*

*"Has all your painful experience brought you nowhere?" (JB Phillips)*

2. \_\_\_\_\_ **the lessons you learn**

*"Remember what you have learned about the Lord through  
your experiences with him."*

*--Deuteronomy 11:2 (Good News)*

3. \_\_\_\_\_ **the experiences of others**

*"People learn from one another, just as iron sharpens iron."*

*--Proverbs 27:17 (Good News)*

4. \_\_\_\_\_ **your experiences to help others**

*"Encourage one another and help one another..."*

*--1 Thessalonians 5:11 (Good News)*