

Pt 3 – **SKILLS TRAINING**

In God's team, we all have a particular position to play based on the abilities, gifts and skills God has given to each of us.

The Israelites were delivered by God from slavery in Egypt. After the Red Sea experience, Moses went up onto Mt Sinai where God gave him many detailed instructions including how to build the Tabernacle.

The Tabernacle was a huge movable tent-like structure, about half the size of a soccer field, dedicated for the worship of God.

Exo 31:18 The Lord finished speaking to Moses on Mount Sinai. Then He gave him the two tablets with His words on them, stone tablets inscribed by God Himself.

Moses comes down from the mountain with the 10 Commandments and finds the people worshipping the Golden Calf – pagan worship!

God wasn't impressed with their behaviour and He let them know how He felt. They became distressed and mourned.

Moses pleads to God on their behalf for mercy. Then in **Exo 35** Moses calls the Israelites to start building the Tabernacle. **The people were not disqualified for turning away from God.**

The Israelites were to build the Tabernacle by using their skills.

Exo 35:10; Exo 35:25-26; Exo 36:1 (NCV)

As slaves they learnt all sorts of different skills: construction, sewing, wood and metal work. **God calls them all to use their skills to build the tabernacle.**

The Tabernacle was to be a place where the presence of God could be experienced like nowhere else.

When the Tabernacle was completed, the presence of God showed-up in the form of a cloud that everybody could see. *Exo 40:34-38*

For the average former slave who used their skills to build the Tabernacle, it must have been so satisfying to know God was pleased with their contribution.

God wants us to do something with our lives that is bigger than ourselves! When we make ourselves available to God, He encourages us to use our skills in fulfilling His purposes.

Maybe our response is “*what skills do I have that God could use?*”

We all have a God-given potential – a designed skill set.

1 Cor 12:7 (msg) Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits.

WE We are all a “work of art.”

Eph 2:10 (nlt) For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus...

The word “**masterpiece**” could also be translated “**craftsmanship**”. When something is made with expert craftsmanship, it’s a work of art. We are God’s unique “**work of art.**”

You are no accident: what you are good at and what you can do, is God’s designing of you.

You have God given skills to do great things for Him.

Eph 2:10 (nlt) For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things He planned for us long ago.

“good things” (works) does not just mean, helping a stranger with a flat tire or a little old lady to cross the street.

“good things” are specific things that God has always had in mind with our name on them before we were born.

Getting into the game is to use our God given skills to serve God, to serve others and to serve in the Church.

When the cloud of the Lord’s presence showed up over the Tabernacle, these former slaves had to be thinking, “Wow, I had something to do with that!”

That was not just their gift to God - it was God’s gift to them to be involved in something so awesome that was so-so-so much bigger than them!

The Tabernacle was a place to experience the presence of God? **A church is to be a community of people where other people can experience God living in and among them.**

Eph 2:21 In Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by His Spirit.

That is what the “church” is meant to be: not a building or an organization, but a group of people who reveal God so others can experience Him.

We all have a skill set, and God calls us to get into the game in serving Him together. So, let’s use our skills in contributing in God’s game plan of redemption to help lost people find their way back to God.

How can we join together our passions and skills together to serve God, to serve others and to serve in the Church?