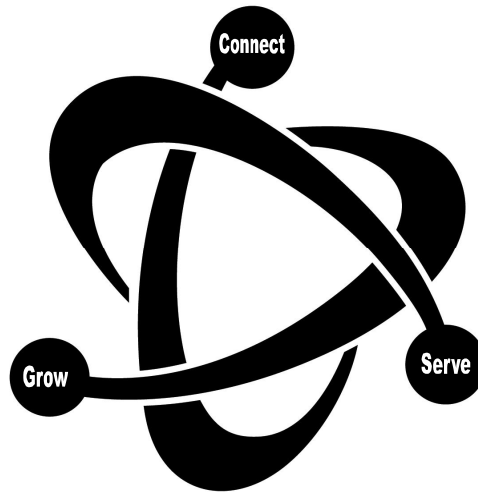


Ministry Resource Guide



Hope Point Community Church

"I didn't know what I was missing in my relationship with God until I started serving."

"I'm a risk taker. I want to take Christ to areas where most people won't go."

"I can't offer much, but I can make people feel welcome on Sunday mornings."

"I have a people intensive job. I enjoy serving behind the scenes on the setup team. This allows others to do their job more effectively."

Thank you for exploring the opportunity to serve God at Hope Point or in the Spartanburg community. The following material will hopefully ignite an interest and lead you to an area that will bring attention to God and fulfillment to you.

To begin, read the following quote:

People who decide to serve in God's mission for as long as he gives them breath...almost always point back to a specific serving moment that sealed their commitment. "In that moment," they say, "I felt the God of heaven and earth use me, and I discovered that there's nothing in the world like that. It beats anything else I've ever experienced!" Whether they taught a child how to pray, guided someone toward faith, helped a husband and wife reconcile, served a meal to a homeless person, or produced an audio tape that puts the Christian message in somebody's hand, they knew their lives would never be the same. If I had to sum up the key to finding the perfect serving niche, I'd do it in one word: experiment.¹

At one point or another, we've all experienced the joy of serving – that self-forgetting happiness in Christ. Whether you're new to the Christian faith, you're reconnecting to the church after being away for a while, or you're new to Hope Point and want to get "plugged-in", remember the following:

- Ministry is using whatever God has given you to serve Him and the needs of others.
- Look to see where God is working and join Him.² There are many opportunities to serve at Hope Point, yet God does most of His work through you outside the walls of the church. Because we spend more time outside of church, there are greater opportunities to make small deposits of compassion and mercy into the lives of those around you at home, your neighborhood, school, work, and community.
- Serve with a clean heart. Romans 12 is one of the main chapters on spiritual gifts and it begins with a call to purity.
- Serve with a humble attitude. What matters is not that we give and lead and show mercy. What matters to God is free and lavish generosity in our giving. What matters to God is passion and eagerness and zeal in our leadership. What matters to God is gladness and cheerfulness and joy in our mercy.³
- People who start small finish strong and faithful to what God is asking of them. If you want to do something big for God, be faithful in the small areas. Faithful obedience leads to greater opportunities. Read the parable of the loaned money in Matthew 25:14-30.

¹ Bill Hybels

² Experiencing God Reality

³ John Piper sermon "Using our Gift in Proportion to Our Faith" November 7, 2004

As you begin this journey, use the following questions to identify the influences in your life.

1. Do you know your spiritual gift? If not, visit pages 6 – 11.
2. If you know your spiritual gift, how have you used it or how are you currently using it?
3. What is something you find fulfillment doing?
4. Do you enjoy working with a specific age group?
5. How much time do/can you commit to particular interests?
6. What are some ways you could use your interests to serve God?
7. What abilities or skill sets do you have that could be used to make an impact for God?
8. For the most part, which needs do you enjoy meeting in people's lives...
 - a. Physical needs – use gifts of mercy, giving, helps, faith
 - b. Emotional needs – use gifts of apostleship, faith, evangelism, encouragement, intercession
 - c. Spiritual needs – use gifts of wisdom, knowledge, leadership, prophecy, teaching, shepherding, administration, discernment
9. What life experiences, both positive and painful, could God use to help others?
10. Where does your personality best suit you to serve? Are you extroverted or introverted?
11. On the flip side, what is something you've volunteered for that has left you frustrated and depleted? Were you over committed? Over commitment usually leads to program fatigue and burnout. Were you serving outside of your interest or gifted area? If you serve outside these areas too long, you'll experience unnecessary stress.

Look over the following areas that Hope Point offers. Circle the ones that interest you and then visit www.hopepoint.org for their descriptions. Look for the “Join a Servant Team” and “Missions” menu tabs on the home page. If you have additional questions or ideas, send us an email to info@hopepoint.org.

Do you enjoy working with...

	Ministry Area
Children	Nursery, toddlers, preschool; Anchor Children’s Ministry; Good News Club; Spartanburg Children’s Shelter; Operation Christmas Child; Angel Tree; Rice Bowls
Youth	Broadcast Student Movement; Homes for Life (Boys home ages 16-21); Young Life
College	College Connection
Men	Men’s Ministry small groups and socials; recreation; Miracle Hill Ministries
Women	Women of Hope fellowships and Bible studies; Miracle Hill Ministries
Families	Life Point Groups; Toddler & Preschool activities; Anchor Children’s Ministry Activities; youth
Poor/Homeless	Miracle Hill Ministries
Post College 20 Something’s	Post College 20 Something’s Bible Studies and fellowships
Physically Challenged	Shadow special needs children who attend Hope Point
Dependency /addiction Problems	Miracle Hill Ministries
Prisoners	Second Chance Ministries; Taste of Christmas

Do you enjoy working with...

	Ministry Area
Information	Information Table Host
Structural Things	Setup Team
Electronics	Audio & Visual Team; Web Team

Do you enjoy...

	Ministry Area
Entertaining / Welcoming	Host Team; Fellowship Team; Greeter Team; lead worship at the Miracle Hill Rescue Mission chapel service once a month
Food Preparation	Host Team; Mobile Meals of Spartanburg
Construction / Repair	Because Hope Point is a mobile ministry, there is much wear and tear on equipment that either needs replacement or repairing. Just ask.
Performing	Help lead worship in the Anchor Children’s Ministry; Lead music in the preschool room; Praise Band
Organization	Information Table Host; various opportunities to help organize and serve the pastoral staff with specific needs
Counseling/ Mentoring/ Encouraging/ Teaching	Anchor Children’s Ministry; Youth Ministry; College Ministry; Post College 20 Something’s; Homes for Life; Truth Ministry; Carolina Pregnancy Center; Good News Club; Life Point Group Leader
Outdoors	Adventure Point Recreation – men’s basketball, men’s softball, co-ed volleyball

Ministry Team Representatives

A Ministry Team Representative (MTR) is a representative from a particular ministry in the church. The purpose of MTR's is to serve as a channel of communication throughout the church. They also oversee particular ministries within the church. The following is a list of MTR's with emails at Hope Point.

Servant Teams-

- Audio/Visual- Josh Ridings – normalridings@gmail.com
- Web Administrator- Jason Sullivan - jasonsullivan@windstream.net
- Setup Team- Steve Parks – swparks@charter.net
- Greeters- Marty Hayes - martyh12@charter.net
- Information Table- Lynn Fields - lfields@cdanjoyner.com
- Host Team- Gretchen Evans - hjemd@bellsouth.net
- Fellowship Team- Sarah Caldwell - sarahcabi@hotmail.com
- Recreation- Mickey Deering milton.deering@us.army.mil & Nic Snow - nicsnow@gmail.com
- Finance- Roger Luttrell & Kim Tuck

Women's Ministry

- Women of Hope- Kristy Hopkins – womenofhope01@aol.com

Men's Ministry

- Todd Nethery – Todd.Nethery@emcontechologies.com

College

- Paul Zion- pzion@butlermeans.com

Youth

- Matt Lyda (Staff)- mattlyda@netscape.net

Children

- 1st – 6th grade - Merissa Ramantanin (Staff)- merissa@charter.net
- Nursery – 3's - Amy Henderson (Staff)- joshuamhenderson@bellsouth.net
- Preschool 4's – 5's - Stacie Bishop (Staff)- jbishop8528@charter.net

Life Point Groups

- Chris Arnold (Staff)- info@hopepoint.org

Missions

- Johnny Ramantanin- ajr2@charter.net
 - Rescue Mission- Ed Schwalbach - EdS@marketlog.net
 - Good News Club- Lesa Clements - birdsma@charterinternet.com
 - Children's Shelter- Johnny Ramantanin - ajr2@charter.net
 - Operation Christmas Child- Bonnie Milburn - bonniejo0@yahoo.com
 - Taste of Christmas- Scott Wolfe - inyoumin@gmail.com
 - Project Angel Tree- Chuck Fields - cwfields3@gmail.com
 - Clothes For Compassion- Merissa Ramantanin – Merissa@charter.net
 - World Hunger Rice Bowls- Katie Landon - katherine.landon@gmail.com

The best way to find out if you like a particular ministry is to take a test drive. That way you'll know if you enjoy the ministry. You wouldn't buy a car without taking a test-driving. The same principle can apply to ministry. You won't know what you're good at until you start serving.



Initial Questions

1. **Think about the step of faith you must take to ensure your test drive happens. God blesses a moving target!**
2. **I would like to test drive this ministry:** _____
(Optional) _____
(Optional) _____
3. **The person I need to contact is:** _____

Follow-up Questions

1. **Did I enjoy the experience?** If your test drive requires you to serve for long periods of time outside the area in which your interests and gifts are best expressed, change cars. If it matches, keep driving and enjoy the journey.
2. **Did the experience express God's love to others?** If so, keep driving. If God did not receive the glory for your actions, its time to change cars.

Spiritual Gifts

Read the following spiritual gifts definitions. Indicate “yes” if you believe you have this gift, “maybe” if you believe you might have this gift, or “no” if you don’t have this gift.

Remember, answer according to who you are, not who you would like to be or think you ought to be. What do your tendencies usually reflect? What have others affirmed in you?

LEADERSHIP GIFTS

Apostleship Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to start and oversee the development of new churches or ministry structures. Literal Meaning: To be sent with a message.

NOTE: The Spiritual Gift of Apostleship is different from the role of the original Disciples of Christ. According to Scripture, an apostle was someone who was sent with authority from Jesus.

Apostles desire to start new ministries or churches. They are able to adapt quickly to different cultures or surroundings. They have a strong desire to minister to people who do not attend church. They welcome risky new challenges and are usually people of vision.

Bible verses: 1 Cor. 12:28-29; Eph. 4:11-12; Rom. 1:5; Acts 13:2-3

Wisdom Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to apply spiritual truth to specific situations. Literal Meaning: To apply truth practically.

Those with the gift of Wisdom are able to see past surface circumstances to know the best course of action. They are able to communicate direction to others from God. They communicate what is best for the person, or for the Body. They have understanding deeper than their knowledge or experience.

Bible verses: 1 Cor. 12:8, James 3:13-18, 1 Cor. 2:3-14, Jer. 9:23-24

Knowledge Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to give a word of truth from God to the Body promoting justice, honesty, and understanding. Literal Meaning: To know.

Those with the gift of Knowledge are able to know what God is saying through the Bible, people, or circumstances. They have a special ability to know the truth of God and serve the church with that information. Much time is devoted to reading, studying, and researching Scripture, delight in answering tough questions about the Bible, and enjoy helping others understand Scripture.

Bible verses: 1 Cor. 12:8; Mark 2:6-8; John 1:45-50

Faith Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to trust God and to act on His promises in order to see God's purposes accomplished, trusting Him to handle any and all obstacles along the way.
Literal Meaning: To trust, have confidence, believe.

People with faith trust God to provide what is needed for their lives. They welcome risk, energized by variables, challenged by ideas most see as impossible, and characterized by a passionate prayer life. They continue to trust God even when circumstances seem impossible.

Bible verses: 1 Cor. 12:9, 13:2; Heb. 11:1; Rom. 4:18-21

Leadership Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to motivate and direct people to accomplish the work of ministry. Literal Meaning: To stand before.

Leaders receive a vision, or goal, from God and communicate that vision clearly to the body. They are good models of ministry, and others often want to follow. They motivate others by helping them see how their gift helps the Body to accomplish the overall goal. Find it easy to motivate people, and able to let go of responsibilities and delegate to others who are qualified.

Bible verses: Rom. 12:8, Heb. 13:17, Luke 22:25-26

SPEAKING GIFTS

Prophecy Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to proclaim God's truth accurately and clearly in a timely and relevant manner. Literal Meaning: To speak before.

Prophets speak a word from God to specific situations. They point out sin and confront when necessary to point people back to God. They present God's truth in an authoritative and direct manner. They actually speak truth from God to confront, challenge, or comfort believers.

Bible verses: Rom. 12:6; 1 Cor. 12:10, 28, 13:2; 2 Peter 1:19-21

Teaching Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to accurately and simply communicate the Word of God, and apply it to the lives of listeners. Literal Meaning: To instruct.

Teachers enjoy research and study of the Bible. They are very concerned with application of Scripture to the lives of listeners. The goal of their instruction is life change towards Christlikeness. They enjoy seeing others incorporate the truth of Scripture into their lives, and they help with that process.

Bible verses: Rom. 12:7, 1 Cor. 12:28-29, Acts 18:24-28, 2 Tim. 2:2

PEOPLE INTENSIVE GIFTS

Evangelism Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to communicate the good news of new life in Jesus Christ accurately and understandably to unbelievers so that they respond in faith. Literal Meaning: To bring good news.

Evangelists enjoy being with unbelievers. They speak naturally and comfortably with unbelievers about spiritual matters. They often inspire other believers to be witnesses. They look for ways to build relational bridges with nonbelievers, use love over logic to win people to Christ, and are able to adapt their gospel presentation to various situations and needs.

Bible verses: Eph. 4:11; Acts 8:26-40; Luke 19:1-10

Mercy Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to feel genuine empathy and compassion for those in need and to practically help them. Literal Meaning: To have compassion.

Those with the gift of mercy are drawn to the hurting and desire to help those who suffer. They take steps to alleviate the cause of the hurt or pain. They truly seek to bear one another's burdens. They are good at comforting others. Fulfillment is found visiting people in need – hospitals, nursing homes, prisons, orphanages, or wherever God directs them.

Bible verses: Rom. 12:8, Matt. 5:7, Mark 10:46-52, Luke 10:25-37

Shepherding Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to nurture and care for a group of Christians and to help them discover their potential in Christ. Literal Meaning: To shepherd a flock.

Shepherds enjoy discipling other believers and nurturing them in their walk with God. They are good models of Christlikeness, and often develop personal, trust-based, long-term relationships with a small number of people. They are concerned with the spiritual growth and welfare of fellow believers.

Bible verses: Eph. 4:11-12, 1 Peter 5:1-4, John 10:1-18

Encouragement Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to motivate others to action; to affirm, reassure, and strengthen the discouraged. Literal Meaning: To come alongside.

Encouragers enjoy speaking words of hope. They usually have a positive attitude. They are good at seeking out opportunities to help others through encouragement, counseling, and inspiration. Rejoice at others' success.

Bible verses: Rom. 12:8; Acts 11:22-24; Acts 15:30-32

SERVICE GIFTS

Helps Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to support other individuals or groups in their ministry by identifying and meeting practical needs. Literal Meaning: To take the place of someone.

Helpers don't mind doing routine tasks. They enjoy working behind the scenes to free up others to do their ministry. They often see specific needs and take practical steps to meet them. They often serve in many different areas, doing whatever it takes to get the job done.

Bible verses: Acts 6:1-4; Rom. 12:7, 16:2; 1 Cor. 12:28

Administration Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to perceive how an organization should function and to plan and execute strategies that move the church to effectively accomplish its goals of ministry. Literal Meaning: To pilot or steer a ship.

Administrators are usually practical planners. They improve the effectiveness and efficiency of a ministry. They are able to delegate, organize people, tasks, events, and achieve clearly defined goals through specific plans.

Bible verses: 1 Cor. 12:28; Acts 6:1-7; Ex. 18:13-26

Giving Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to contribute material resources to further the work of God. Literal Meaning: To give part of, share.

Givers give cheerfully above the tithe. They sometimes limit purchases for themselves in order to give to the work of the Lord. Strategically seek out ways to increase their resources in order to contribute more to God's use. They enjoy giving their money to meet needs, and they trust in God to provide for their needs.

Bible verses: Rom. 12:8; 2 Cor. 6:8; Luke 21:1-4

Hospitality Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to make people feel welcome, loved and comfortable. Literal Meaning: To love strangers.

Those with the gift of Hospitality are good at meeting new people who may go unnoticed in a crowd. They enjoy hosting people in their home and helping people get to know others. They are good at providing food and fellowship.

Bible verses: 1 Peter 4:9-10; Rom. 12:13; Heb. 13:1-2

ENABLING GIFTS

Discernment Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to identify truth or falsehood, to see authenticity or deception. Literal Meaning: To separate or make a distinction, differentiate.

Those with the gift of discernment can help us distinguish right from wrong. They can tell whether a person is being real or fake. They can see whether something is from God, Satan, or man. Easily identify people's true motives and agendas.

Bible verses: 1 Cor. 12:10; Acts 5:1-4; Matt. 16:21-23

Intercession Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to consistently pray for others with frequent results. Literal Meaning: To plead on behalf of someone, intercede.

Intercessors often spend extended time praying for others, or asking for God's intervention in specific situations. They are sensitive to the Spirit's leading to pray at all times. They realize they are in spiritual warfare with Satan.

Bible verses: Rom. 8:26-27; John 17:9-26; 1 Tim. 2:1-2; Col. 1:9-12, 4:12-13

MIRACUOUS GIFTS

Healing Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to be God's channel to restore people to health, beyond traditional and natural means, whether it be spiritual, emotional, physical, etc. Literal Meaning: To heal instantaneously.

Healers may pray over a sick or impaired person and see God miraculously cure that illness or impairment. View medicine as a means God may choose for healing. Those with the gift of healing give glory to God, and authenticate a message from God through healing.

Bible verses: 1 Cor. 12:9, 28, 30; Acts 3:1-16; Mark 2:1-12

Tongues Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to speak to God or for God in an unknown language. Literal Meaning: Tongue, language.

Those with the gift of Tongues show the presence of the Holy Spirit through supernatural speech. They sense an intimacy with God as they pray in a tongue. They may also speak a message from God through an interpreter.

Bible verses: 1 Cor. 12:10, 28-30, 13:1, 14:1-33; Acts 2:1-11

Interpretation Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to understand the message from God given through someone speaking in an unknown tongue and to communicate it accurately to the church.
Literal Meaning: To translate, interpret

Those who Interpret are able to understand the words of one who speaks in an unknown tongue and tell the Body what God is saying to them. This is a miraculous manifestation of the power and presence of God.

Bible verses: 1 Cor. 12:10; 14:5, 26-28

Miracles Yes Maybe No

Definition: The Spirit-given capacity to show God's power through supernatural events which glorify God and authenticate the message of Christ. Literal Meaning: To do powerful deeds.

Those with the gift of Miracles point people to Christ with a supernatural occurrence. They have confidence in God to do the impossible, and give glory to God when He does it. They fully grasp the fact that miracles only occur when God wills them to happen and pray and look to supernatural results whenever they encounter impossible life situations.

Bible verses: 1 Cor. 12:10, 28-29; John 2:1-11; Luke 5:1-11