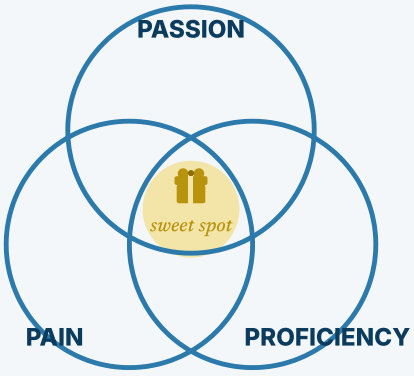
WHERE PASSION, PAIN, AND PROFICIENCY MEET

Find your *sweet spot.*

God shaped you on purpose. Your sweet spot is the place where your **passion, pain, and proficiency** *overlap: the work He has been preparing you to do, in His body and out in the field. This is the PPP Conversation Guide the Ministering stage points you to. Use it on your own, or use it to walk someone else through discovering theirs.*



Passion: what stirs you, what won't leave you alone, what you'd choose to spend your life on.

Pain: the seasons you've walked through that God has redeemed. Often the place you can help others most.

Proficiency: how God has equipped you. Both natural strengths *and* the spiritual gifts the Spirit has given you, which your church family usually sees before you do.

Where all three overlap, that's the *sweet spot*. The work God has shaped you for.

HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

It works alone or with someone else. If you're helping a friend, Life Group member, or someone you're discipling find their gifts, sit down together. Read the definitions above out loud, then walk through each section slowly and let them do the talking. When you reach "Your sweet spot," that's your cue: you're the one who asks the closing questions and helps them name a next step.

PASSION · WHAT STIRS YOUR HEART?

ASK YOURSELF

? What need in the world stirs you to want to do something about it?

? What captures your imagination? What do you read or learn about for fun?

? Who do you most want to serve? A kind of person, a season of life?

? If you could do anything for Christ for the next ten years, what would it be?

— PAIN · WHAT HAS GOD REDEEMED?

This is often the hardest section, and the most important. The places God has met you in the dark are usually the places He's preparing you to meet others.

ASK YOURSELF

? A loss, hardship, or failure that has shaped me:

? How God met me in it: what He taught me, what He changed:

? Who might I be able to walk through a similar dark season with?

— PROFICIENCY · HOW HAS GOD EQUIPPED YOU?

The Holy Spirit gives the gifts. The church recognizes them. Your church family, the people who've watched you serve, usually sees this before you do. Start there.

ASK YOURSELF · OR ASK THEM

? What do people consistently come to you for?

? What strengths do others see in you?

? How might your skills become a blessing to God's people?

— YOUR SWEET SPOT · THE CONVERSATION

Now it's the conversation partner's turn to ask. Three questions, the same three we use everywhere at Ashe Alliance:

1. WHERE DO THESE THREE CIRCLES OVERLAP? _____

2. WHAT'S ONE INSIDE-THE-CHURCH NEXT STEP? _____

3. WHAT'S ONE OUTSIDE-THE-CHURCH NEXT STEP? _____

Take the next step

A sweet spot stays a hunch until you act on it. Pick a place to start, and a person to talk it through.

ONE PLACE TO BEGIN SERVING THIS SEASON _____

A FRIEND, LIFE GROUP LEADER, MENTOR, PASTOR, OR ELDER I'LL TALK THIS THROUGH WITH _____

DATE _____

BACKUP OPTION · THE ONLINE ASSESSMENT

The people who know you are the primary way we discover spiritual gifts here, not a quiz. If you'd still like a starting point of your own, take the free assessment at **gifts.churchgrowth.org** (about 20 minutes) and bring what it surfaces back into the conversation above.

"Just as each one has received a gift, use it to serve others, as good stewards of the varied grace of God." 1 PETER 4 : 10