



# ***Components of Design: Unique Passions***

[Ephesians 4:11-13](#)

From the series titled: *God's Glorious Church: Equipped*

Pastor Mike Graham – February 12, 2023

.....

## **1. Importance**

A. They are from Jesus & They Reflect Jesus ([vv. 11-12](#))

B. Necessary for Maturity ([vv. 12-13](#))

## **2. Identification**

- **Apostolic** - Sending & Extending ([John 20:21; Matthew 28:18-20](#))
- **Prophetic** - Revealing & Reforming ([John 4:19, 43-44](#))
- **Evangelistic** - Exciting & Inviting ([Mathew 4:17, 10:5-7; John 3, 4](#))
- **Shepherding** - Protecting & Providing ([Matthew 9:36; John 10:14-15; Psalm 23](#))
- **Teaching** - Explaining & Training ([Matthew 5:1-2; John 13:13-14](#))

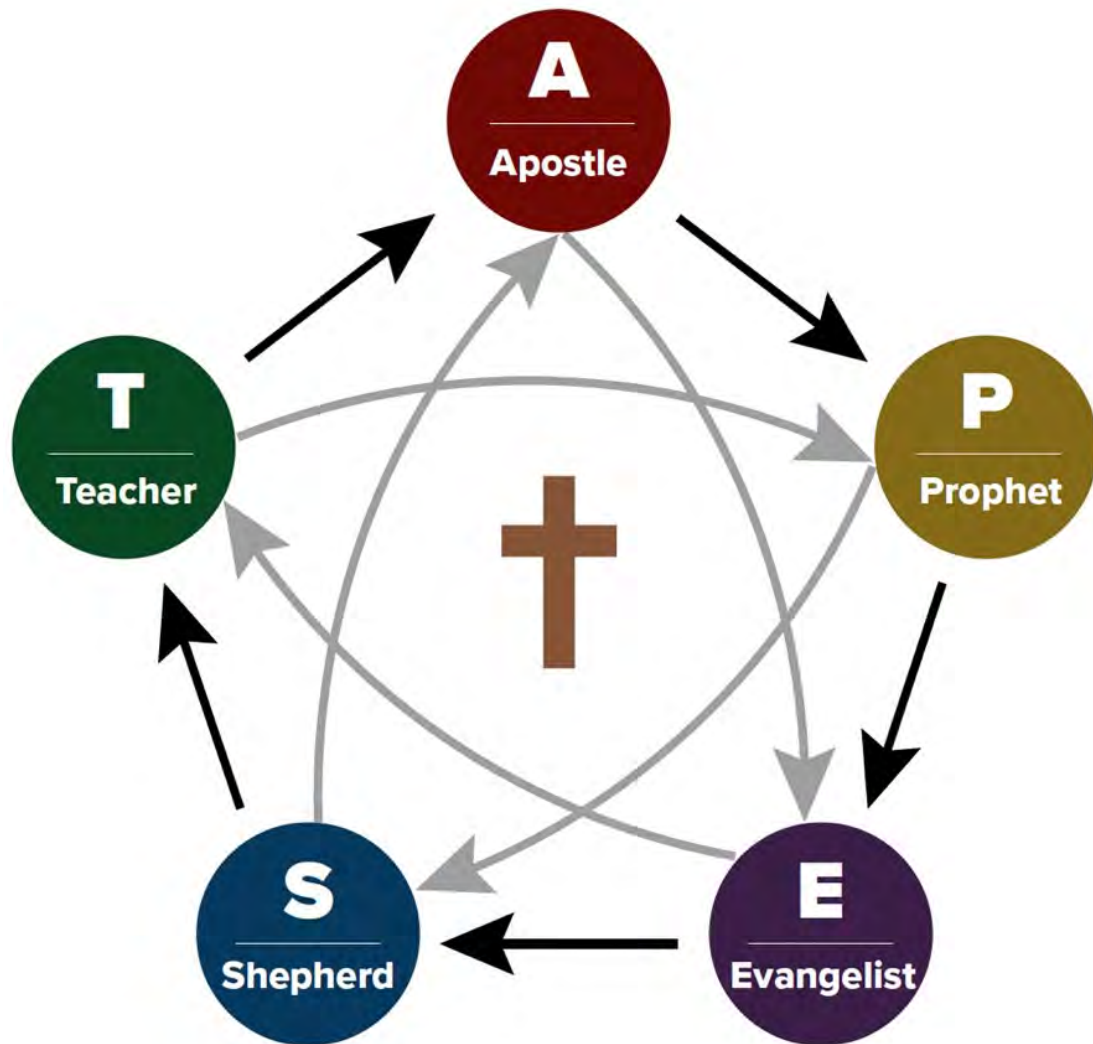
## **3. Interdependence (APEST Image)**

## **4. Action**



As we walk through these 5 voices, you will see yourself in some of them. Highest to lowest (start with #1 and #5). There is a free test at the bottom.

***Understand and Appreciate***





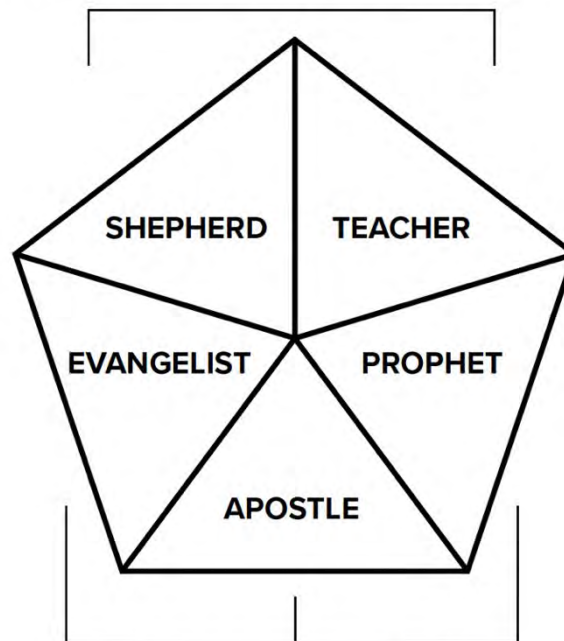
A proper understanding of these different voices should pull us together, they should not pull us apart.

- Realize that our culture, our experiences, and even some of our **misconceptions** may bring baggage to this discussion. We must use Scripture / Jesus to define and understand each of these.
- Many would argue, Jesus was the only perfectly blended APEST. He was truly all of them! Each voice reflects Him, His leadership, His passion, and His method of growth for the church.

We are starting with the **APEs**. Generally, these are our go-getters. They push the purpose and mission of God forward with energy and strategy.

### ***Developer Gifts***

**Secures and settles the taken ground**



### ***Pioneering Gifts***

**Takes ground for the Gospel**



### ***Apostolic - Sending & Extending***

Often **carry the banner for the mission** (football) given to the church. Sent ones. **Planters. Initiators and influencers.** Extends the mission to those who have not yet heard. Guarding the DNA and extending the church. **Innovation, risk, perpetual motion forward.** We are not talking about the official 12 apostles, but rather the voice of apostleship in the church.

- John 20:21 - “As the Father has sent me, I now send you.” The first sent one. He planted the church.
- Matthew 28:18-20 - “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations.”

**To exile** the apostolic voices is to remove the growing edge of the church. This voice makes people feel uncomfortable. It is always pushing. Until all nations have heard and until everyone has been given an opportunity, there is a restlessness - the mission must continue. **Without** this voice, mission can move into the background.

### ***Prophetic - Revealing & Reforming***

We are not talking about prophecies or foretelling the future. Even in the OT that was very much a secondary role of the prophet. They are primarily **covenant keepers and covenant enforcers.** A vertical dynamic, keeping our covenant with God. A **horizontal dynamic**, the hurting, the needy, and the oppressed. Must have both dynamics for this gifting. **Intimacy, prayer and advocacy.**

- John 4:19 “The woman said to him, " Sir, I perceive that you are a prophet.”
- John 4:43-44 - Jesus describes Himself as a prophet - “For Jesus Himself testified that a prophet has no honor in his own country.”



- Much of God's wrath was directed toward two things in the prophetic books - a lack of faithfulness to God and injustice toward our fellow man. The prophetic voice continues to sound the alarm when either of these are not happening.

If the prophetic voice is **dampened**, it is easy for us to find ourselves disconnecting or drifting from God. Truth may begin to bend to our preferences. We begin to focus on ourselves - our security, comfort and peace / forgetting that there are so many outside of these walls who are beat down, hurting, and in need of our help.

### ***Evangelistic - Exciting & Inviting***

**Bringing people into the story of God by telling the story of God** - the story of Jesus. The Gospel and Kingdom emerge. Mobilizer - **they call others to share their faith**; story-teller - **they make the Gospel connect to everyday life**.

- Mathew 4:17 - "From that time Jesus began to preach and say, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.'"
- John 3 & 4 to Nicodemus / To the Samaritan woman - the need to be born again and the need for living water - and they become evangelists.
- Matthew 10:5-7 - He also called others to evangelize. "And as you go, preach, saying, the kingdom of heaven is at hand."
- The evangelistic voice presents the Gospel and calls others to do the same!

**Without** this voice, energy throughout the church begins to wane. The Gospel can fall into the background. New people are not as drawn to the church. No one is pushing us to tell the most important story in the history of the world - the person and work of Jesus. We become



centered on ourselves and we slowly grow colder, we slowly grow older, and we become obsolete in the mission of God.

### ***Shepherding - Protecting & Providing***

Caring for one another, **knowing the sheep by name**. Connecting people and protecting the flock. They walk through the Psalm 23 journey. **Guards and guides, fights and contends, seeks wholeness, and is willing to go through the valley** for the sake of others.

- Matthew 9:36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.”
- John 10:14-15 “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.

**Without** this voice, the sheep become downtrodden, worn out, and possibly dismissed. Some sheep may be left behind. We may move quickly, but it can be at the expense of many lost along the way. Mission becomes overwhelming because we never stop for water, we never rest in that green meadow, our wounds never have time to heal.

### ***Teaching - Explaining & Training***

Contextualize info to impart and build wisdom and understanding in the people. **Help people receive truth and live it out** - transformation. Read the signs of the time and **connect God’s Word to God’s world** in a contextualized way. **Coaches, trains, and creates systems for learning and growth.**

- Sermon on the Mt. of Olives - Matthew 5:1-2 “When Jesus saw the crowds, He went up on the mountain; and after He sat down,



His disciples came to Him. He opened His mouth and began to teach them.”

- John 13:13-14 - We see Him as the Teacher both in word and deed. “The Son of Man has come to serve.” (demonstrates)

**Without** this voice, the word of God can be handled incorrectly. We begin to drift into error. The Gospel being shared may no longer be the Gospel Jesus taught. God’s people can become disconnected from the Word - their greatest source of communion with God and transformation to become more like Jesus. The enemy can introduce subtle lies that start to take hold and lead the flock astray.

*Take the free test at [FiveFoldMinistry.com](http://FiveFoldMinistry.com).*

# APEST

*Discovering our place in the living body of Jesus Christ  
(Ephesians 4:11-13)*



\_\_\_\_\_ **Apostolic**

***Sending & Extending***

Extending Jesus' love and life into new cultures and contexts.



\_\_\_\_\_ **Prophetic**

***Revealing & Reforming***

Keeping the Church faithful to God and serving in the world.



\_\_\_\_\_ **Evangelistic**

***Exciting and Inviting***

Telling the story and recruiting to Jesus' cause.



\_\_\_\_\_ **Shepherding**

***Protecting & Providing***

Developing and maintaining healthy community in the Body.



\_\_\_\_\_ **Teaching**

***Explaining & Training***

Passing on wisdom and understanding.



# Areas to Serve

Worship Ministries

Maintenance

The Maker's  
Center

Connection  
Ministries

Family Ministries

Life Group  
Ministries

Care Ministries

City Ministries

Discipleship  
Ministries

Support Ministries

Global Outreach  
Ministries



To get plugged in to serve, scan the QR code on the right or email Paula Toney ([ptoney@BibleCenterChurch.com](mailto:ptoney@BibleCenterChurch.com)).



## Apostolic Roles

Founder  
Designer  
Cultural Architect  
Visionary  
Pioneer  
Adventurer  
Strategist  
Innovator



## Prophetic Roles

Activist  
Politician  
Advocate  
Aid Worker  
Poet  
Reformer  
Liberator  
Environmentalist



## Evangelistic Roles

Messenger  
Salesperson  
Journalist  
Recruiter  
Promoter  
Champion  
Storyteller  
Marketer



## Teaching Roles

Sage  
Professor  
Philosopher  
Scientist  
Guide  
Engineer  
Researcher  
Legal Worker



## Shepherding Roles

Caregiver  
Defender  
Peacemaker  
Helper  
First Responder  
Healer  
Counselor