

# BEZALEEL

The Old Testament Tabernacle was the portable earthly dwelling place of the presence of God among the Israelites. God gave Moses meticulously detailed plans for the design of the Tabernacle and all of its holy contents. It would take the most skilled craftsmen to construct the Tabernacle to God's specifications. So, in Exodus 31, God chose His own general contractor.

*<sup>1</sup> Then the Lord said to Moses, <sup>2</sup> " Look, I have specifically chosen Bezaleel son of Uri, grandson of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. <sup>3</sup> I have filled him with the spirit of God, giving him great wisdom, ability, and expertise in all kinds of crafts. <sup>4</sup> He is a master craftsman, expert in working with gold silver and bronze. <sup>5</sup> He is skilled in engraving and mounting gemstones and in carving wood. He is a master at every craft!*

**-Exodus 31:1-5**

## APPLICATION

There are different levels of carpentry, but the two primary types of carpenters are those referred to as "framers" and "finishers". Framers specialize in constructing the frame or initial structure of a building, while finishers focus on the finish details such as trim, casing, hardware and such. For any building project, it's important to assign tasks accordingly, otherwise the project suffers. God designed His tabernacle to very precise specifications that were so important to Him that He called, equipped, and empowered Bezaleel as the perfect man for the job.

Like Bezaleel, God has gifted each of us uniquely, and He has the perfect "project" to maximize our gifts and talents for His house. Each of us were born with abilities that are specific to each of us respectively. No two people can use the same gift exactly the same way, in the same context or situation.

In 1 Corinthians 12, Paul describes this in the context of a physical body. Every part has a role that is vital to the whole body. If one part lacks, or one part tries to do the job of another, the whole body suffers. When we are able to discover our God-given talents and gifts and operate in them, we experience a deep fulfillment in Christ. Spiritually, we are all in full-time ministry whether our gifts are used primarily within the walls of the physical church building, or if they're used in the body of Christ outside the walls in other areas of service or employment. Seek God for your place in the Body of Christ and get to work building.

## **DISCUSSION/CONTEMPLATION**

- Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-26
  
- What areas can you identify as skills you have to be used by God?
  
- Are you willing to share your gifts with others?

## D6-CUSSION

Sketch a body on a piece of paper (or describe a word-picture). Read 1 Corinthians 12:12-26 and discuss or draw a body where the parts are trying to do other jobs. Why is it so important that we do our part?

- What stands out to you the most?
- What questions do you have?
- What is an application for your life?

## PRAYERS & PRAISE