

(Extension Site Version)

**PT 5000**  
**PERSONAL ASSESSMENT AND INTRODUCTION TO MINISTRY**  
**Xenos Christian Fellowship, Columbus, Ohio**  
**February 22 and 23, 2008**

**Instructor: Dr. Phillip W. Sell**  
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**Catalog Description of PT 5000**

Designed to assist in personal assessment of character, temperament, talents, abilities and gifts, ministry and relational skills, sense of call to ministry and other traits relevant to ministry. Based on these assessments, students will develop a personal plan to accomplish their goals through course work and an integrative paper. Should be taken during the first or second semester of enrollment. *One hour.*

**Course Objectives**

1. That the student will become more reflective on and appreciative of the providential hand of God in their formation up to the present.
2. That the student will have a deeper awareness of their personal characteristics whether they are strengths or weaknesses.
3. That the student will have more refined ways of describing themselves to others (especially for ministry placement)
4. That the student will further refine their sense of calling in ministry before the Lord.
5. That the student will begin the process of thinking through their philosophy of ministry and have some basic awareness of the more prevalent paradigms of ministry.

**Required Texts**

**Tom Rath, *StrengthsFinder 2.0*. (Gallup Press, 2007)**

This book must be **purchased new** because inside it you will find the website and codes necessary to take the StrengthsFinder 2.0 which is an online natural talent assessment instrument. If purchased used, the codes will already be used and thus be invalid to access the instrument online.

**A PT 5000 *Resource Notebook* must be purchased (\$15.00) from your Extension Site Office at least ten days prior to class. The packet will include articles, handouts and assessment instruments that are used during the class. Some readings and assignments must be done prior to the first class session. Be sure to bring this Resource Notebook to class sessions.**

## Course Requirements

### **Pre-Course Assignments    10% of the course grade    Due on first class session**

The following items must be completed or read prior to our first class session. All of these items can be found in the PT 5000 *Resource Notebook* mentioned under the heading “Required Texts”

- The Keirseley Temperament Sorter II must be filled out in the week prior to the first class session. **Your four-letter temperament type must be given to the Extension site coordinator by the Wednesday before our first class session.** This allows your instructor to bring a description of your temperament type to the first class session.
- Have completed the *Talent Discovery Guide*
- Have taken the StrengthsFinder 2.0 online via the website and code provided in the course textbook. Be sure to have read the sections in Tom Rath’s *StrengthsFinder 2.0* corresponding to your five signature talents. You are not required to read the rest of the book for the course, but are encouraged to read it later, at your leisure.
- Read completely “*The Life Cycle of a Leader*” by Robert Clinton and Richard Clinton
- Read completely “*A Map for Ministry*” by Phillip W. Sell

**During the first class session we will collect a 3 by 5 card indicating the percentage of these assignments completed prior to the first class session.**

### **Life Line Assignment    70 % of the course grade**

**Due March 23**

Your *Life Line* assignment summarizes the providential work of God in your life using a process outlined in *Life Line: An Exercise in Spiritual Biography* (the green sheets in your *Resource Notebook*). This process explores your development up until the present. The assignment has a number of components that comprise the total *Life Line* assignment.

#### **Life Line Narrative                      60 points**

This assignment summarizes the work of God in your life written in a narrative form. Detailed information about this narrative is included in the “*Writing the Life Line Narrative*” page in your *Life Line* green sheets. **The narrative will be 6-8 pages long double-spaced in a 12 point font.**

#### **Digging Deeper Questions              20 points**

You will answer ten “Digging Deeper Questions” found in Appendix B in your *Life Line* green sheets including the five required and five optional questions. Type both question and your response for each one. This assignment should not **exceed two pages single-spaced in 12 point font.** Append to your *Life Line* Narrative.

#### **Processing Partner                      20 points**

You will read a minimum of 100 pages (or the entirety of the book, whichever comes first) of one of the books listed in Appendix C of the *Life Line* green sheets entitled “Processing Partners”. You will write a **two-page paper in 12 point font** concerning insights into your life that came from interaction/reaction to your processing partners life. Append to your *Life Line* Narrative.

**This three-part assignment (and the following assignment) must be mailed to the Supervised Ministries Office in an form acceptable to the United States Postal Service. Inside must be an 8 and a ½ by 11 manila envelope with your return address and adequate postage to mail all of your assignments back to you after being graded. Failure to provide a return envelope and postage will cost you a full letter grade for the course.**

**Mail to:** Dr. Phillip W. Sell  
Supervised Ministries  
Trinity Evangelical Divinity School  
2065 Half Day Rd.  
Deerfield, IL 60015

**Profile and Response                      20% of the course grade                      Due March 23**

Completely filling out your blue “*Personal Profile*” sheets will provide 50% of the points for this assignment.

The other 50% of the points for this assignment consists of writing a **two-page, 12 point font Resonse Paper** addressing three areas listed below.

- Summarize “threads” of gifts/talents that you see running through your Profile that you believe are central to your life and ministry.
- Summarize the weaknesses/character or temperament flaws that you need to address or monitor in your life and ministry.
- Give a statement as to your sense of calling at the present. Are you called to vocational ministry? Does you calling have a particular focus at this point?

**Insert this assignment in the mailing with the *Life Line* assignment. Include both the Profile and the Response paper.**

**Grading Scale**

A = 100-93	A- = 92-90	
B+ = 89-88	B = 87-83	B- = 82-80
C+ = 79-78	C = 77-73	C- = 72-70
D+ = 69-68	D = 67-63	D- = 62-60

**Late assignments will be penalized a full letter grade for any portion of the first week that they are late. Any portion of a second week will reduce the grade another full letter grade and so on. Any assignment not turned in will result in a zero that will have devastating consequences for your grade. “On time” means that the postmark on your mailing packet is on or before the assignment due date.**

**Your professor is extending an open invitation to any student in the class to schedule an appointment to discuss the insights you have gained in this class or to help chart your future. You can request a “Vision Interview” with my Administrative Assistant, Barb Briggs, at extension 8030 to schedule an appointment. Be sure to bring your Personal Profile to that appointment. Do not schedule this appointment prior to receiving back all your graded assignments from the course.**

## **Course Schedule**

### **Friday Evening, February 22**

Syllabus, Personal Profile  
Foundational Concepts  
Sick Side of Leadership  
Leadership Development  
**Pre-course assignments due**

### **Saturday, February 23**

Call to Vocational Ministry  
Philosophy of Ministry  
Ministry Models  
Natural Talents  
Temperament  
Character Development  
Spiritual Gifts

### **March 23**

**Life Line Due**  
**Profile and Response Due**