

Parts Men Play in Serving God's Shalom

PART	Role	Symbol	Examples	Healthy Traits	Unhealthy Traits
Steward	Tend the earth as a keeper of God's creation	Shovel	Adam	Attentive, responsible, and nurturing in caring for the land	Exploitive of the earth and its resources, destructive
Warrior	Serve and protect all people and our world	Sword	Moses, Joshua, Gideon, David	Disciplined, engaged, sacrificial, loyal, courageous, and assertive	Sadistic, aggressive, dominating, destructive, violent
Lover	Delight in what is lovely and beautiful	Heart, Phallus	David, Jonathan, Solomon	Sensual, loving, passionate, connected, appreciative, faithful	Addicted, narcissistic, possessive, promiscuous, controlling
Partner	Live with a companion in a committed relationship	Covenant	Joseph	Loving, loyal, caring, intimate, supportive, committed	Selfish, jealous, possessive, controlling
Father	Nurture, guide, love, and bless in one's family	Hand	Abraham, Jacob	Encouraging, affectionate, nurturing, supportive, loving	Controlling, dominating
Mentor	Guide others along their journey as they mature	Hand	Elijah, Elisha, Paul, Barnabas	Encouraging, supportive, affirming, loving	Controlling, dominating
Healer	Restore health and wholeness in acts of care	Vial	Elisha	Discerning, knowledgeable, understanding	Exploitive, coercive
Prophet	Address issues with God's word and will	Pen	Jeremiah, Isaiah, Amos, Micah, John the Baptist	Discerning, passionate, assertive, understanding, insightful	Depressive, pessimistic, despairing
Leader	Influence and empower others	Staff	Moses, David, Solomon	Empowering, just, generative, secure, authoritative	Tyrant, insecure, controlling, exploitive
Elder	Embody and extend wisdom	Gray hair	Abraham, Elijah, Paul, John	Trusting, centered, generative, gracious, wise	Old fool or bitter man with little learning or growth

Parts are common roles in scripture and archetypes (psychic patterns with instinctual energies) for human formation and service. Jesus, the image of God and model human, fulfilled these parts as he served his mission of extending God's shalom. --Steve Thomas