

SHAPE Online Academy : Lesson #4-PERSONALITY

Discovering Who God Made You to Be

“Like stained glass, our different personalities reflect God’s light in many colors and patterns.”

–Rick Warren

Personality

There are many ways personality has been measured.

There is no “right” way to measure personality.

- Myers Briggs (ENFJ, etc.)
- Smalley and Trent (Beaver, Otter, etc.)
- Others

God has instilled a _____ personality in each one of us for his glory.

Understanding the personality God has given you will help you more effectively express your spiritual gifts, heart, and abilities for his sake.

We will look at two key areas of personality which directly concern ministry

- How you _____ to others
- Ho you _____ to opportunities

How you relate to others:

Your Kingdom Purpose is all about people, so it is important to discover how you relate to others.

How you respond to opportunities:

You will encounter many serving opportunities throughout your life, so understanding how you react to various situations will help you make the best choices.

Personality

“The complex of characteristics that distinguishes an individual” –Miriam Webster

These characteristics affect the way you _____, the way you _____, and the way you _____.

Your personality characteristics influence your entire life—from decision making to dealing with change, from solving problems to resolving conflict, from engaging people to expressing feelings, from competing to cooperating

Your personality takes center stage in all areas of your life.

God gave you a unique personality.

He did it intentionally as part of his process of creating the masterpiece of your life.

Personality Differences

“These differences are natural, God given aspects of personality. Being who you are—the person God intended you to be—is of paramount importance...the difference makes life interesting. Can you imagine what the world would be like if everyone were just like you—your gifts and your shortcomings magnified by the billions?”

Kise, Stark, Krebs-Hirsh, *LifeKeys: Discovering Who You Are, Why You’re Here, What You Do Best.*

Relating to Others- How do you relate with other people?

Outgoing or Reserved

If you prefer interacting with _____ people and tend to gain energy from being around them, then God may have wired you to be **outgoing**.

If you prefer interacting with just a _____ people at a time—or maybe even one-on-one—and you find your energy renewed through quiet, reflective time, then your nature may be more **reserved**.

Which of these statements best describe you?

I tend to...

Look for ways to be part of the crowd.

Build deep relationships with a few individuals, as opposed to many people.

Start conversations with people I don’t know.

Hesitate in being part of a large group.

Self-expressive or Self-controlled?

If you tend to be _____ and verbal with your thoughts and opinions and enjoy sharing them with others, you would be considered **self-expressive**.

If you tend to keep your thoughts and opinions to _____, you may be described as **self-controlled**.

Not to be confused with the fruit of the spirit (self-control) from Galatians 5.

Which of these statements best describe you?

I tend to...

Share my feelings freely with those I have just met.

Withhold my thoughts and feelings from others at certain times.

Seek opportunities to share my life with others.

Hold my cards closer to my chest so that only a few individuals can truly know me.

Cooperative or Competitive?

Do you commonly _____ the opinions of others without disagreement? Is it your aim in life to resist as much conflict as possible? If so you are more likely to be **cooperative** in relating to others.

If you enjoy _____ and overcoming obstacles, and if you love to embrace challenges, you would be considered **competitive** in nature.

Which of these statements best describe you?

I tend to...

Focus on making sure people are okay when I'm around them.

Find importance in achievements.

Embrace conflict and enjoy winning.

Look for ways to make others content.

Your Response to Opportunities- How do you react when God brings you an opportunity?

High Risk or _____ Risk?

Do you naturally gravitate toward opportunities for serving that involve few risks with few changes, or does your heart race with adrenaline when opportunities arise that come with a higher level of risk attached to them? Consider your own comfort zones

I tend to...

Avoid too much change.

Relish chaotic environments.

Thrive when risk is very low.

Become motivated when I have the chance to overcome obstacles in order to achieve success.

People or _____ ?

Do you get excited about opportunities that involve people or do you prefer situations that require behind-the-scenes work on projects that help people?

I tend to...

Embrace opportunities that impact people directly.

Look for ways to complete projects.

Enjoy orchestrating and coordinating many projects.

Find fulfillment when I am able to work with someone one-on-one or in a small group.

Follow or _____ ?

The disciples...Peter/Andrew

I tend to...

Find myself in positions of leadership.

Feel comfortable when I can follow someone else.

Impact others with my life.

Receive fulfillment by helping others find success.

Team or _____?

Do you believe that being part of a team is important for a successful outcome?

Do you believe you have a greater impact on your own?

I tend to...

Enjoy working within a team environment.

Look for opportunities that allow me to operate solo.

Become energized by being around others.

Work most effectively when I'm alone.

Routine or _____?

If you prefer activities that clearly define what is expected of you, and completion of the activity is within reach, you tend to be more **routine** in nature.

If you enjoy involvement with many projects, that's a good indication that **variety** will be part of your unique Kingdom Purpose.

I tend to...

Begin many projects at one time.

Find fulfillment when I can complete one project at a time.

Have a high capacity and look for ways to spin many plates

Become overwhelmed with constant change.

Assignment #6

Embrace the person God made you to be.

Reflect on the questions posed in this lesson and work through your own personality.

How can your personality help direct your service and Kingdom Purpose?