

KNOW YOURSELF

A SHORTCUT TO WHO YOU REALLY ARE

Part Three: Forgotten Masterpiece

If you were designed by God and sin marred that design, how do you push past those limits to reach your potential? The answer is, surprisingly, through the redemptive work of Jesus. Following Jesus doesn't just change eternity, it changes your present. The path to spiritual and emotional health is the key to redeeming the image of God in you.

Scripture: Ephesians 2:1-10 NLT

Bottom Line: Differences aren't deficiencies; sometimes they're design.

Discussion Questions

1. Which part of your personality do you think has the most potential to generate good in your relationships and in the world?
2. Review the list below...and reflect with the group on the ways your personality reveal the character and heart of God:
 - Type One The Perfectionist — God's perfection
 - Type Two The Helper — God's unstoppable, selfless giving
 - Type Three The Performer — God's glory
 - Type Four The Romantic — God's creativity and pathos
 - Type Five The Investigator — God's omniscience
 - Type Six The Loyalist — God's steadfast love and loyalty
 - Type Seven The Enthusiast — God's childlike joy and delight in creation
 - Type Eight The Challenger — God's power and intensity
 - Type Nine The Mediator — God's love of peace and desire for union
3. How does what we've learned so far in the series emphasize what Paul is trying to teach us about God in Ephesians 2:1-10?
4. Paul makes an outstanding claim in verse 10: you are God's masterpiece, his poem. It's the same word in Greek that was used to describe God's work in creation. What difference does it make to you that you were created by God with a purpose in mind?
5. Having spent three weeks on this topic, in what ways do you think your self-knowledge has grown because of what you've learned about God?
6. Similarly, in what ways has your knowledge or understanding of God grown because of what you learned about yourself?
7. The healthier you become, the more you take on all the traits described in the Enneagram. Which of the other Enneagram types also describe aspects of your personality?

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8. Finally, one of the goals of the Enneagram is to help you understand other people (who are different from you) and empathize with them. Pick a scenario—home, work or your next family gathering. Given what you know about the Enneagram, imagine how you might respond differently (and more maturely) to the people who would otherwise irritate you.
9. The process of growing healthier is something Christians have called spiritual maturity. Review the Ten Paths to Transformation section at the end of the relevant chapter for your personality type. Which action step will you embrace next?

Moving Forward

Use the Enneagram as a way of getting to know yourself and God better. The Ten Paths to transformation section at the end of your Enneagram Type chapter will give you some tangible things to work on.

Growing healthier and more mature isn't nearly as complete unless you pair it with a growing knowledge of God. As you grow healthier and more mature, use it as an opportunity to get to know God better.

If you're new to faith, three of the best ways to grow spiritually are to:

- Read your bible regularly. The free YouVersion Bible app is available for on your phone or tablet and has many great plans.
- Pray. Praying is not nearly as hard as people make it out to be. It's a conversation with God through Jesus. You can watch a message about how to pray, here. www.connexuschurch.com/sermon/teach-me-how-to-pray/
- Register for Starting Point. We suggest taking Starting Point www.ConnexusChurch.com/StartingPoint

Changing Your Mind

"For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago." Ephesians 2:10 NLT