

# KNOW YOURSELF

A SHORTCUT TO WHO YOU REALLY ARE

## **Part One: Inside Job: The Image of God**

So...why isn't everyone a little more like you? The world would be a better place, would it not? Apparently, not. When God designed humankind, he pronounced his work to be very good. However, as the Enneagram reveals, He didn't make us all the same. Maybe the differences aren't deficiencies, they're design.

**Scripture:** Genesis 1:24-31 NLT

**Bottom Line:** Without knowledge of self there is no knowledge of God. Without knowledge of God there is no knowledge of self.

### **Discussion Questions**

1. Have you heard of the Enneagram before? If so, how were you introduced to it?
2. What part of your personality do you and others love?
3. What bothers you (and other people) about the way you're designed?
4. Read Genesis 1:24-31. Think about what the text teaches about how God created variety when he created the world. Also reflect on the diversity of creation as you've experienced it in nature or travel. Why do you think God made our planet so diverse and varied?
5. Creation is vast and diverse. So is humanity. That's reflected in the way God designed different people differently. While it could take a while for you to decide which Enneagram Type you are, here's a list. [www.yourenneagramcoach.com](http://www.yourenneagramcoach.com) Any idea which type best describes you?
  - Type One - The Perfectionist
  - Type Two - The Helper
  - Type Three - The Performer
  - Type Four - The Romantic
  - Type Five - The Investigator
  - Type Six - The Loyalist
  - Type Seven - The Enthusiast
  - Type Eight - The Challenger
  - Type Nine - The Mediator
6. If you know (or think you know) your Enneagram type...what are you learning about yourself?

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7. It's easy to judge other people and devalue them, thinking other people should be just a little more like you. How would the way you view others change if you realized that some of the differences you see in others aren't deficiencies, but design?
8. Think specifically about someone close to you (your spouse if you're married, a child, a best friend or a parent). How would you treat them differently this week if you came to realize that some of the differences you see in them were actually design differences, not deficiencies?

## **Moving Forward**

If you're interested, take the free Enneagram assessment [www.ConnexusChurch.com/Enneagram](http://www.ConnexusChurch.com/Enneagram) to see if it helps you determine your type. Then peruse through *The Road Back To You* to see if the chapter that describes your personality type really does describe you. Don't worry if you can't figure it out quickly...it often takes time (*Road Back to You* author Ian Morgan Cron says it took him years to determine he is a 4).

As you learn about yourself, also take some time to learn about the other personality types (hint...most of the people in your life do NOT have the same type as you). Then ponder this truth: what if some of the differences that bother you in others aren't defects, but design—a reflection of the glory and variety God appears to love?

## **Changing Your Mind**

"Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good!" Genesis 1:27 NLT