

COMMUNICATION, CONFLICT, TEAMWORK AND THE ENNEA-WHAT? JENN WHITMER HAS A STORY TO SHARE:

Three cousins walk into a bar. A fireball on ice, cucumber soda, silver martini, and sampler app ordered at the counter, the group grabs a table, plunks down their white table number down, and start catching up.

After 20 minutes of laughing and talking, they notice their appetizer has not arrived.

Silver Martini, with a wave of the hand and smiling: "Oh, wow! We were just having so much fun. I'm sure they're just busy back there, and it will be delicious when it arrives."

Fireball, clenching her fists: "Can you believe that? I mean, really, what terrible service. Aren't you frustrated by this?"

Cucumber Soda, popping up: "Well, I'll just see what's going on. No big deal. I'll take care of it."

Who are you at the bar?

So now imagine... what if that bar is how folks in your workplace deal with conflict? Can you picture the silver martinis? What about the fireballs? Who are your cucumber sodas? And most importantly, who are you?

How do these different responses feel? The truth is, all three conflict styles have strengths and challenges. As leaders — really as humans — we must begin with ourselves and how we react to interpersonal conflict (or simply a situation that feels disappointing.)

So what about you? Which one do you think you are?

Cool Cucumber

Enneagram One, Three, and Five

- Put emotions out of the conversation.
- · Focus on rules, facts, and policies.

Read how to help yourself at jennwhitmer.com/blog

"Conflict at Work? Use the Enneagram"



Dynamite

Enneagram Four, Six, and Eight

- React quickly and intensely to disappointment and conflict.
- Easily frustrated when others aren't upset like they are.

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Silver Linings

Enneagram Two, Seven, and Nine

- Respond with positivity that isn't always helpful.
- Avoid conflict.

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