



Series Big Idea: God uniquely designed each of us for His purposes.

Series Big Do: Invite God to reveal the real you and to equip you to better love others.

Series Overview:

In this series, we will be looking deeply at how we're made to experience life-giving relationships with God and others using the Enneagram system of personality typing. The Enneagram is a tool that helps us identify ourselves as belonging to one of nine personality types. Those types aren't so much about what we do, as they are about our motivation for doing the things we do. The Enneagram explains the differences in those who fill the pews in the church.

We are called to reflect Jesus to everyone with whom we interact. Our lives are to focus on loving God and loving others, but how each of us goes about doing that will look different. While we are all fearfully and wonderfully made, bearing the image of God, we were each created uniquely, on purpose and for purpose. Our uniqueness has both advantages and disadvantages; we have healthy versions and unhealthy versions of ourselves which impact our relationships. When we take time to know and understand ourselves, digging into the why's of our personalities, we will be better equipped to fulfill the mission and purpose God has for our lives.

Remember that the Enneagram is simply one insightful tool as we journey toward understanding who we are, who God is, and who we are in relation to God. It is God's truth that sets us free and brings transformation. You'll often hear us say, "It is just a number—your true identity is found in Jesus!"

As we take this journey together, keep in mind that the healthiest way to use the Enneagram is by focusing on self-awareness, not diagnosing others. And while we all have a primary personality number, we can find ourselves in other personality types. Trying to discern where you land and growing in self-awareness will help you with the relationships in your life and in the ministry to which you were called.

Additional resources:

The Road Back to You, Ian Morgan Cron, Suzanne Stabile
The Sacred Enneagram, Christopher Heuertz

Free Test QR Code

Free Basic Enneagram Test:

<https://www.yourenneagramcoach.com/dont-know-your-type>

Detailed Enneagram Test (\$12):

Rheti Test: <https://tests.enneagraminstitute.com/>



Week 1 #1: The Reformer**June 1-5**

NOTE: While you may not be a #1, you can find parts of yourself in this personality type.

The Reformers are typically strong-willed and justice-oriented. They find comfort in structure, rules and order, and are willing to take a stand for what they care about. Type 1's have a deep desire to be right and to get things right; they reflect God's goodness. They also struggle with anger issues. The elder son in the parable of the Prodigal Son fits this description. He is the son who always did what he was supposed to do—the *right* thing. This son's reaction to his father embracing the younger son who chose to rebel and dishonor the father shows us the passion that the elder son has for being good and right. The Biblical truths that Type 1's need to pursue include learning to control their own anger and giving allowance for other's faults and offering forgiveness to them. They also need to remember that God alone is good, and His goodness is seen through His mercy, compassion, and faithfulness.

Day 1 Matthew 22:34-40

Reflect: What are the three relationships in which Jesus says love must rule?

Apply: How is your love for God demonstrated? For those in your circle? For those we often think of as unlovable? How easy is it for you to love yourself as an image bearer of God?

Pray: *God, help me to let go of the voices of idealistic duty and responsibility and replace them with Your love that demonstrates patience, forgiveness and grace.*

Day 2 Luke 15:11-32

Reflect: What is different about the two sons? Where was the older son when the younger returned? Why is that significant? What most bothered the elder son?

Apply: Who do you best relate to in this parable and why? How important is it to you to be right, to do right?

Pray: *Father, I can see myself in the elder son with my protestations of how deserving I am compared to others. Help me be joyful in Your joys, sharing Your heart of mercy.*

Day 3 James 1:19-22

Reflect: What does anger prohibit? How might a #1 wrestle with verse 20?

Apply: Which of the three directives in verse 19 do you struggle with most? How often do you use such words as "should" and "ought?" How have you gone from being a "hearer" to "doer?" How might a #1 struggle with this?

Pray: *God, my anger does not produce righteousness. Teach me to trust You to defend my position rather than letting anger discredit my witness as a Christ follower.*

Day 4 Colossians 3:12-14

Reflect: How are Christ followers described in verse 12? How does this relate to being clothed? How is unforgiveness rooted in anger and forgiveness rooted in love?

Apply: With what quality do you need most to be clothed? How easy is it for you to be forbearing with others and to make allowances for other's faults?

Pray: *Holy God, You have chosen me to be holy even as You are holy. Fill me with your Spirit and clothe me in the loving-kindness of Christ that I might choose to be like You today.*

Day 5 Psalm 119:65-68

Reflect: What word is repeated here? What all does the psalmist desire from the Lord?

Apply: What is the difference between reflecting goodness and being a perfectionist? How has God been good to you and how have you extended goodness?

Pray: *Jesus, only You lived a life of perfect obedience, fulfilling everything God requires. In Your perfect love alone, I can be liberated from the tendencies of poser, performer, and perfectionist. Remind me that perfection can only be found in You.*

Week 2 #2: The Helper**June 8-12**

NOTE: While you may not be a #2, you can find parts of yourself in this personality type.

Type 2 of the Enneagram is known as the Helper; "Service" is their middle name. #2's value relationships and are kind, self-sacrificing and considerate of others. They want their world to be a more loving place and work hard to make this so. Through their unconditional love and care, Helpers are a gift from God, showing His love toward others. In Scripture we read of a servant-hearted Helper named Martha, who typically gets a bad rap. As a Helper, Martha is simply walking in her type, wanting to serve the Messiah, her Lord, as best as she can. The Biblical truths that Type 2's need to pursue include watching out for and confessing the sin of pride as it affects the way they see themselves and others, learning that it is okay to ask for help, and understanding that their identity comes from God, not from what they do.

Day 1 Luke 10:38-42

Reflect: What was Martha's motivation for what she was doing? What was at the heart of her question to Jesus? What was at the heart of Jesus' reply to her?

Apply: We are called to serve. How do you know when it is time to serve or when it is time to sit? What would be different if you served after sitting with Jesus, not before?

Pray: *Lord, help me stop when I'm too wrapped up in what I perceive as urgent so I don't miss what is truly important.*

Day 2 Mark 10:42-45; Romans 12:11

Reflect: What is Jesus' primary message in verse 43? How did Jesus serve while on earth? According to Romans 12:11, who are we to zealously serve? How does that look?

Apply: When you serve others, what is your real motivation and the outcome you desire? How have you seen a #2 serve in a healthy manner? Unhealthy?

Pray: *Father, may I more obediently respond to Your leading. Show me when I avoid my own needs to maintain the self-image of being "helpful" to earn other people's approval.*

Day 3 Philippians 2:1-5

Reflect: Make a list of the do's and don'ts Paul presents. What should be the motivation or reason for the do's? What harm may result from the don'ts?

Apply: How often do you serve to get something in return? Out of guilt? To feel needed? To give God glory? To share Jesus' love? Seek the mindset of Christ before you serve.

Pray: *Holy Spirit, You are with me and guide me as I live by faith. Lead me with Your tender mercy and love to humbly serve others in Jesus' name.*

Day 4 Isaiah 30:18-19

Reflect: What is the underlying message here? What type of person would benefit from hearing these words from Isaiah?

Apply: When is it hard for you to ask for help? How often do you ask God for help? Others?

Pray: *Lord, please forgive me for those times that I have not intentionally turned to You or gratefully accepted Your blessing of grace! Help me to trust You to make things right.*

Day 5 Galatians 1:10; Psalm 10:4

Reflect: What does Paul say is the danger of people-pleasing? How are pride and people-pleasing related? When we act or serve out of self-pride, what is at stake?

Apply: #2's struggle not only with people-pleasing, but also pride and false-humility. What is the difference in these? What spiritual practices may help to overcome these sins?

Pray: *God, thank You that in Christ, I am pleasing in Your sight. I want to live my life on the foundation of who You say I am instead of what other people might think.*

Week 3 #3: The Achiever**June 15-19**

NOTE: While you may not be a #3, you can find parts of yourself in this personality type.

If you want something done in the best and most efficient way possible, then you want the Type 3 Achiever involved. #3's can jump into any situation, see what needs to be done and then make it happen. They have a strong desire to be successful in all they do and are competitive and goal oriented. Jacob, the son of Isaac and Rebekah, exemplifies the Achiever. Starting at his birth narrative we see the traits of a #3, as he came out of the womb grasping the heel of his brother Esau. Through the stories of his interactions with his family, especially his brother, father, and uncle, we see the healthy and unhealthy traits of an Achiever demonstrated. The Biblical truths that Type 3's need to pursue include the importance of being honest with self and others, admitting failure and confessing sin, and seeking success as defined by God.

Day 1 Genesis 25:24-34; Genesis 29:16-30

Reflect: What words would you use to describe Jacob, Esau and Laban from these passages? What does the name Jacob mean? What is he willing to do to get what he wants?

Apply: When have you taken advantage of someone to move ahead, or vice versa? When have you been willing to work hard and long to get something you really desired?

Pray: *Father, thank You for fresh opportunities and challenges. Help me to trust You for all my needs and necessities rather than in my own strength.*

Day 2 Genesis 32:22-32

Reflect: With whom was Jacob wrestling and why? Therefore, what is significant about verse 25? What was Jacob seeking? Why was he given a new name?

Apply: When have you been unwilling to give up, even when things got tough? When was the last time you wrestled with yourself, with another person and/or with God?

Pray: *Lord, I humbly seek Your favor as You show me that I can't meet my needs through my own strength and self-reliance. I look to You for blessings that I may not even fully understand.*

Day 3 Psalm 119:25-29

Reflect: What kind of situation do you think inspired the psalmist to pen these verses?

Apply: When were times that you could have spoken verse 29 to God? #3's struggle with being more deceitful about their image than to get what they want. What about you?

Pray: *God, show me how I am deceitful. I ask Your forgiveness. Enlarge and increase my desire to live for You, faithfully obeying Your Word.*

Day 4 Matthew 18:1-5

Reflect: Why did the disciples ask Jesus this question? What is significant about His answer and what point is He making?

Apply: Do you think it is wrong to want to be great in the kingdom? Why or why not?

Pray: *Father God, help me learn to accept vulnerability as a gift. I don't need to be perfect to receive love; I can rest from performing in Your unearned-yet-unflinching love for me.*

Day 5 Ephesians 2:8-10

Reflect: How is the word *works* used differently in verses 9 and 10? What two significant truths are stated? How do these truths especially impact an Achiever?

Apply: Why is it so easy for us to fall into the "work-for-your-salvation" trap? How can you affirm the achievements of a #3 to help them know God loves him/her despite works?

Pray: *Father, thank You for bringing me to a deeper understanding that in myself there is no good thing that is acceptable to You, except that I am saved by grace through faith in Christ who loves me. I live to serve You in word and deed, to Your praise and glory.*

Week 4 #4: The Individualist**June 22-26**

NOTE: While you may not be a #4, you can find parts of yourself in this personality type.

Type 4 on the Enneagram is known as the Individualist. Sometimes referred to as a romanticist or creative, they experience the aesthetic beauty of their world. 4's are nothing if not subtle and expressive and are said to be on one hand emotionally honest and personal, and on the other moody and self-conscious. King David was most likely a Type 4. He was a man after God's heart who expressed his feelings beautifully and creatively. David is often credited with the writing of the Psalms. When he was able to bring the Ark of the Covenant into Jerusalem, David danced on the streets. #4's struggle with envy, as we see in the story of Bathsheba. The Biblical truths that Type 4's need to pursue include embracing gratitude, seeing the beauty and talent of others as a good thing, and letting their faith trump their emotions.

Day 1 2 Samuel 11:1-5; 12:1-14

Reflect: What is noteworthy in verse 11:1? Why do you think David did not go out to war?

Why was Nathan's story so upsetting to David? What all resulted from David's sin?

Apply: Are you more likely to do what is expected or the opposite? When has a trusted friend called you into account for your actions? How willing are you to confront someone?

Pray: *Lord, show me Your will and reveal to me how and where I must act. Quiet my fear. Silence my pride. Drive out confusion and bring clarity. Give me courage to move forward.*

Day 2 2 Samuel 6:14-22

Reflect: How would you describe David's relationship with the Lord? What part

of David's response to Michal was unnecessary? What caused him to say that?

Apply: How is your worship? The core sin of #4 is envy. When you have something others envy, you can become prideful, as David did. When have you experienced this?

Pray: *God, show me where envy has caused me to pursue things over pursuing You. Realign my heart with Your will for my life!*

Day 3 Psalm 139:7-18

Reflect: What are the emotions that David is expressing here? Is this more about him or God?

Apply: Do you more often praise God for making you who you are or do you ask Him to make you different (verse 14)? Why? Ask God to reveal how wonderful you are.

Pray: *Lord, I praise You that even before conception, I was known in Your heart. I trust You to guard and protect, guide and provide for every moment of my life.*

Day 4 1 Chronicles 11:4-10

Reflect: As a #4, David liked to stand out from the crowd. He also valued and encouraged the uniqueness of others. How does this passage illustrate these attributes?

Apply: What helps you to pursue what you are told is impossible? How often do you see the beauty and talent of others as a good thing?

Pray: *Father, thank You for giving us worth in Your eyes. Help me live as the one You uniquely intended me to be. Forgive me when I fail to love others in the same way.*

Day 5 Psalm 13:1-6

Reflect: What emotions are David expressing? What causes his emotions to shift?

Apply: When have your feelings or emotions ruled over your faith in God? What needs to happen so you can feel, but not be controlled by feelings?

Pray: *God, bless me with the strength and determination to always put my faith in You regardless of how I feel about the situations I find myself in. Breathe Your vitality into my hopes and dreams.*

Week 5 #5: The Observer**June 29—July 1**

NOTE: While you may not be a #5, you can find parts of yourself in this personality type.

The Observers want to know; they want to understand and make sense of the world around them. They are insightful and observant, desiring for the world to be a less chaotic and more organized place. 5's strive for independence, appreciate privacy and tend to conserve their mental, emotional and physical resources. Jesus was having a private conversation with a Pharisee and learned teacher named Nicodemus, who most likely was an Observer on the Enneagram—known also as investigators who ask a lot of questions. Nicodemus was secretly investigating Jesus, seeking to know more about Him; Jesus wanted him to know how to have eternal life. The Biblical truths that 5's need to pursue include realizing the importance of expressing feelings and emotions, valuing community and sharing what they have and know, and striving to go from knowledge to belief.

Day 1 John 3:1-21

Reflect: Why did Nicodemus go to see Jesus; what was he seeking? How did Jesus interact with him? Why did Jesus talk about light and dark at the end?

Apply: Do you think Nicodemus was satisfied after the meeting? Why or why not? What new insights do you gain by reading John 3:16 in its context?

Pray: *Jesus, thank You that You always welcome my efforts to seek the truth. I ask for grace to accept and obey when You challenge me to be born anew, in things large and small.*

Day 2 John 7:45-52; John 19:38-40

Reflect: What do we learn about Nicodemus from these readings?

Apply: #5's want to uncover truth, fear being thought of as ignorant, and tend to isolate themselves. How may these have played out in Nicodemus' life? In your life?

Pray: *Jesus, I prayerfully approach You in secret. You challenge me to live in the light of God's love and forgiveness and to share You with others.*

Day 3 Acts 17:10-12

Reflect: What was distinct about the Bereans? What resulted?

Apply: How often do you go to the Word to verify what you hear or are taught? How might your faith be impacted if you did this more often?

Pray: *Lord, rather than dwell on the world's ways, remind me to think upon what is true, praiseworthy, and excellent. Strengthen my life and mind in the things and ways of You.*

Day 4 2 Timothy 3:7; Romans 10:9

Reflect: What is the point of these two verses? How would you paraphrase them? What is different about the two requirements in the Romans verse? Why are both needed?

Apply: Have you known someone who is very knowledgeable but lacks faith? How important is it for you to understand or have all the facts before you can believe something? Why?

Pray: *Lord, with a teachable spirit, give me the courage and grace to stand fast in the truth and to share the Good News for Your praise and glory.*

Day 5 Romans 12:4-8

Reflect: What does this passage reveal about being in community? What is the point of verses 6-8?

Apply: Would you say you are generous with all God has given you or do you have work to do? What parts of yourself are you more willing to share: time, emotions, knowledge, money...?

Pray: *Father, You have given me a place to belong and to serve. Take my gifts and abilities and bless them by Your grace to be used effectively for You.*

Week 6 #6: The Loyalist**July 6-10**

NOTE: While you may not be a #6, you can find parts of yourself in this personality type.

The Loyalists are always aware of the world around them and they are thinking about what can, will or might go wrong. They value security and relationships but are constantly questioning the strength of both. Loyalists are devoted to people and causes and are loyal to their relationships and the commitments they make. Peter, a Loyalist, found his mission in life through following Jesus; he worked hard and thought of himself as a loyal member of Jesus' inner group of followers. He was loyal to the mission of Jesus and believed that he would defend it until the end. And after Pentecost, that's exactly what happened. The Biblical truths that Type 6's need to pursue include knowing the Lord is always with them, giving them courage and strength; seeing that others can be reliable too; and believing that God is for them and is trustworthy.

Day 1 Matthew 14:22-33

Reflect: What was Peter willing to do that the others were not? Why do you think he did it? What stopped him from going all the way to Jesus?

Apply: Are you more like Peter or the others? How good are you at assessing risk? If God called you to do something risky, what would you need to accomplish the task?

Pray: *Lord Jesus, nourish and strengthen my faith so that I will neither fear nor doubt you. Grant me the strength of Your hand to help others who are afraid.*

Day 2 Matthew 26:31-35; John 21:15-19

Reflect: What words would you use to describe Peter in these readings? Why was Peter hurt? John records how different Peter will be at the end of his life. What changes him?

Apply: When have you pledged loyalty and then did not follow through?

Pray: *Jesus, like Peter, I have wondered if I really love You. I offer You the love of my heart, imperfect as it is, and then I too can say, 'Lord, You know I love You'. Rather than focusing on my failures, help me accept that You love me as I am.*

Day 3 Matthew 19:23-27; John 6:60-69

Reflect: In Matthew 19, why was Peter troubled? What was Jesus communicating?

In John 6, why were followers leaving Jesus? Why didn't Peter leave?

Apply: Like Peter, #6's want to be safe, avoid risk, and have good discernment about people. How do you relate to Peter in these ways?

Pray: *Jesus, let Your radical message sink deep into my heart. Without trusting and letting go, I cannot follow You. Help me risk jumping in, taking action, speaking up and using the gifts I have.*

Day 4 Psalm 91:1-16

Reflect: What do you think was the motivation for this psalm? What reasons are given for God protecting and rescuing a person? Which verse do you need to commit to memory?

Apply: What is your own response to fear-provoking situations? How well does this psalm resonate with your own relationship with or experience with God?

Pray: *Lord, when fears and anxiety come knocking, remind me that You are a good and faithful God. Help me challenge my worries with life-building truth instead of destructive thoughts.*

Day 5 Proverbs 3:3-4

Reflect: What are the two desirable traits listed and how are they seen outwardly (neck) and inwardly (heart) in a person? Why are they so valuable?

Apply: How would others rate your level of love and loyalty? How have you experienced these in your life? Who are your most loyal friends? Affirm them today!

Pray: *May I be honest and truthful with all. I desire Your mercy and truth that I might walk in favor with You and with men.*

Week 7 #7: The Enthusiast**July 13-17**

NOTE: While you may not be a #7, you can find parts of yourself in this personality type.

Type 7's tend to be enthusiastic, adventurous, and spontaneous in their behavior. They love seeking out new experiences, constantly thinking about "what's next". Enthusiasts are optimistic about what the future will bring and automatically reframe challenging things into positive opportunities, finding joy in all situations. They are spontaneous and playful, but this can result in being restless and distracted. King Solomon is a perfect example of a #7. He seemed to have it all, but it was not enough. Solomon, the son of King David, lived most of his life seeking the next thing that would bring him happiness or pleasure. The Biblical truths that Type 7's need to pursue include learning to be content in all situations and to exhibit self-control, trusting God's use of suffering and perseverance to form Godly character, and choosing their companions wisely.

Day 1 1 Kings 1:32-37; 1 Kings 3:7-15; 1 Kings 8:62-66

Reflect: What blessing was spoken over Solomon before he was made king? What did he want most from the Lord and why? How would you describe his dedication of the temple?

Apply: What do you need most from the Lord to fulfill His call on your life? How extravagant are you in your offerings and sacrifices to the Lord?

Pray: *God, You delight in my generosity, compassion, and giving. Fill my heart with gratitude and generosity and show me ways to serve You more. Fill me with Your love and wisdom so it spills on people around me.*

Day 2 1 Kings 6:38—7:1; 1 Kings 11:1-3

Reflect: What do you observe from these passages about Solomon's focus and priorities? What do you think was the root of these changes?

Apply: How do you see the traits of a #7 playing out here? How have you experienced these? The core sin for #7 is gluttony. How have you struggled with this in your life?

Pray: *Lord, I know that when You are put in Your proper place in my life, other things will also be put in the right perspective. I choose Jesus rather than the indulgence of my flesh.*

Day 3 Ecclesiastes 2:1-11

Reflect: Based on his words, what observations can you make of Solomon during this time of his life? Why do you think he spoke so clearly on this matter?

Apply: When have you tried to fill a void in your life with pleasure, work, hobbies, etc.? What resulted? Do you know someone who needs help in this area now? What can you do?

Pray: *Lord, keep me from being enticed into worldly ways or chasing after any of the vain things that this world offers. I invite Your goodness and grace into every relationship in my life. I seek Your guidance for every decision I make.*

Day 4 Philippians 4:11-13

Reflect: What is the secret Paul has learned? How are contentment and self-control related?

Apply: What have you experienced that has taught you contentment? Self-control?

Pray: *Father, I ask for a contented heart, whether I have much or little, looking to You for my strength, my support and my supply. I pray that I live day by day to Your praise and glory.*

Day 5 Psalm 16:1-11

Reflect: What has David discovered and how has it impacted him? How do you see both temporal and eternal perspectives in this psalm? How does this compare to Solomon in Ecclesiastes?

Apply: #7's need to carefully choose their companions. How have you been swayed in the wrong direction? How have you influenced others for good?

Pray: *Lord, I know that life is found in Your presence, constantly realizing that You are with me—leading me, guiding me, directing me. And in Your presence, I find fullness of joy.*

Week 8 #8: The Challenger**July 20-24**

NOTE: While you may not be a #8, you can find parts of yourself in this personality type.

Type 8 is a strong, independent and powerful force. Often described as having "presence," people know when they are in the room either from their quiet strength or their verbal and direct communication. They have little patience with what they see as weakness in themselves or others but are defenders of those who are treated unjustly or powerless. Challengers are straightforward truth tellers, which rings true of John the Baptist. He was unafraid of standing up to others for the sake of a greater cause. He had no problem challenging the religious leaders and others in authority and used his confrontational preaching to get to the heart of matters. The Biblical truths that Type 8's need to pursue include pursuing and extending mercy, submitting to others in humility, and acknowledging vulnerability and accepting discipline from the Lord.

Day 1 Matthew 3:1-17

Reflect: How would you describe John based on his conversations with the Pharisees and Jesus?

Apply: How direct are you with people? How do you go about confronting someone when it is needed? When has someone confronted you? When has Jesus been direct with you?

Pray: *Lord, it's because You cared enough to confront me that I now rest in Your love. Grant me the grace to love enough to confront as necessary. Bring the beauty of redemption, reconciliation and restoration.*

Day 2 Luke 3:1-18

Reflect: What was at the heart of what John told the people to do when they asked? What was he passionate about?

Apply: #8's want to see the world be a just place. How have you been offended by injustice, either personally or by what you saw or heard? When have you helped seek justice?

Pray: *Where is God specifically inviting you to act justly and to love mercifully today? Pray for the knowledge and wisdom of His will for you and for strength to carry it out.*

Day 3 Matthew 14:1-12

Reflect: Why was John imprisoned? What was John's intention? What was Herodias seeking?

Apply: When have you experienced negative consequences for speaking the truth for someone's benefit? Experienced positive results?

Pray: *Lord, speaking truth to authority is never easy, it always exacts a price. Strengthen my heart with courage and wisdom that I may truly witness to Your values.*

Day 4 James 3:17; 2:13

Reflect: Define and think of an example for each of the descriptions of godly wisdom. How would you paraphrase James 2:13?

Apply: Which of the descriptions of wisdom do you often demonstrate? Which do you need to work on? Where are you on the mercy scale? What may help you grow?

Pray: *Father God, I pray that my life will be one that demonstrates godly wisdom as I live for Your glory and honor.*

Day 5 2 Corinthians 12:6-13

Reflect: What is Paul's main point? #8's often struggle with a passion for power and control, and avoid being vulnerable. What can they learn from Paul here?

Apply: How easy or difficult is it for you to be vulnerable? How can vulnerability be a sign of strength? How are you with accepting discipline? When have you sought discipline? Why?

Pray: *Lord, keep me from prideful thoughts and ungodly actions. Keep me low at the cross and walking in humble obedience. Thank You that Your strength is made perfect in my weakness. May my life be a living testimony to Your goodness and grace.*

Week 9 #9: The Peacemaker

July 27-31

NOTE: While you may not be a #9, you can find parts of yourself in this personality type.

Peacemakers want to bring peace to their world and the world around them. They are supportive; others feel accepted, heard and understood in their presence. Peacemakers are great mediators who can see everyone's side but often don't know what they want or think because they are so other-focused. Abraham is one biblical figure who exemplifies the Peacemaker. We see the best and worst of a Peacemaker through his: pleading with God for the city of Sodom, struggling and separating from his nephew Lot, dealing with the enemies he encounters in his travels, contending with strong-willed wife Sarai, and obeying the voice of the Lord. The Biblical truths that Type 9's need to pursue include owning and resolving their feelings and making their needs known, embracing conflict in order to arrive at positive resolutions, and pursuing faith in action.

Day 1 Genesis 13:1-18

Reflect: Based on this passage, how would you describe Abraham? Lot? What did God affirm after Abraham split company with Lot and why?

Apply: How do you most often handle quarrelling and conflict when it arises? Are you more apt to stand your ground or give in? What has helped you in this area?

Pray: *Lord, teach me to work through conflict rather than avoid it or become paralyzed by it. Guide me in knowing what matters to me and what matters to You and then putting my faith into action.*

Day 2 Genesis 18:20-33

Reflect: Why was Abraham bargaining with God? What did God see in him during this encounter? What does that say about Abraham's character and his faith in God?

Apply: When have you pleaded with God for His mercy on behalf of others? What do you learn about God and our relationship with Him from this passage?

Pray: *Father, help me to know You so well that I won't be timid to ask great things of You. Lead me to exercise an ever-increasing faith and boldness in my prayers to You.*

Day 3 Genesis 16:1-6; 21:8-14

Reflect: Why do you think Abraham agreed with Sarai? What do you think about his response to her regarding Hagar? How would you describe Abraham in this reading?

Apply: #9's tend to avoid conflict and often find it difficult to share wants and needs. How may this have impacted Abraham? Are you good at sharing your needs, thoughts, desires?

Pray: *Lord, keeping the peace at all costs isn't true and lasting peace. Peace isn't found in my passivity or the desires and perspectives of others. Help me confidently and sincerely communicate as my true self, even if it is uncomfortable.*

Day 4 Romans 12:14-18; Matthew 5:9

Reflect: How is peacemaking costly? What does it require from us? Why is it so important?

Apply: What practical things can you do to encourage peace? Do you need to make things right with someone today? How have you helped someone resolve a conflict or seek peace?

Pray: *Lord, the peace which You call us to is not about the absence of conflict, but about being aligned with the power of Your love. Use me as Your instrument of godly reconciliation and peace-making in this distressed world.*

Day 5 Hebrews 6:7-12; James 4:17

Reflect: According to Hebrews, how are salvation and works linked? Why is laziness sinful?

Apply: #9's struggle with sloth, or inaction. When have you withdrawn from doing what you know you should? What resulted? Are you prone to procrastination? When and why?

Pray: *God, forgive me for the times when I have avoided doing what's right from fear of conflict or for my own convenience and comfort. May I be ready and willing to act, through Your sufficient strength and for Your greater glory.*

