CITYCHURCH

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USING MY INDIVIDUALITY FOR MINISTRY

I praise you, because I am fearfully and wonderfully made! Psalm 139:14

...Each of us has a set of mental tools that we have become comfortable using and thus reach for in the everyday business of living. Although we all have access to the same basic tools in our psychological toolbox, each of us is more comfortable with and thus prefers a particular tool (or set of tools) for a particular task. It is our unique set of these preferences that gives us our distinct personality and makes us appear similar or dissimilar to others. --Peter Briggs Myers, Gifts Differing

You have been created with preferences—choices you make when relating to others. You are more comfortable relating in some ways than in others. Certain responses come more naturally to you... No matter where you are—you can certainly relate in ways other than your preferred style, but it isn't as comfortable. When relationships don't permit your preferred style, they require additional time, energy and sensitivity. --Bruce Bugbee, <u>What You Do Best in the Body</u>

The following Personal Exercise and Preparation has been adapted from the *Personality Indicator Worksheet* by CACC (Center of Advancement for Christian Coaching).

The purpose of this personal style indicator is to help you identify your basic personality tendencies, which will add greater understanding to your unique DESIGN. The personal style indicator worksheet is not meant to be a standardized personality inventory.

When reading each set of corresponding characteristics ask yourself:

"Which characteristic seems more effortless and comfortable for me?" and *"Which characteristic would most accurately describe me as I usually am?"*

Place a checkmark by each characteristic that more accurately describes you. While both of the statements may be true for you, one of the two statements most likely describes you better or more consistently than the other one.

EXTROVERSION / INTROVERSION

Your responses to the following statements will help you determine the degree of interaction you prefer to have with others, and whether you **prefer a more** *active* or *reflective* approach to the world and situations around you.

EXTROVERSION

INTROVERSION

Energized by participation in activities	Energized when involved with your inner world of ideas
Enjoy being involved in multiple activities	Tend to be reflective
Energized by being with groups of people	Enjoy time to be alonebeing with groups of people can be emotionally draining
Energized by working in groups	Enjoy solitary activities—group activities may not be energizing
Have a diverse range of acquaintances & friends	Prefer fewer, close relationships
Like to make things happen; enjoy action	Like to have a clear understanding of a plan before moving into action
Sometimes can move too quickly in a situation	Sometimes can spend too much time reflecting before moving into action
Understanding of a problem often becomes clearer if you first talk with others	Understanding of problem becomes clearer by reflecting on ideas that help explain the problem

Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. *Psalm 139:14*

FACTUAL / INTUITIVE

Your responses to these statements will help you determine whether you attach more credibility to information that comes in through your five senses or by insight.

FACTUAL	INTUITIVE
Concerned with what is actual and current	Your impression of an experience is what gives you insight into a situation
In approaching situations, prefer to look at the facts first	Increase understanding through insight
Often skilled at seeing the practical application of ideas	Concerned with what is possible and new; Enjoy the prospect of future possibilities
Sometimes can focus on the facts and can miss new possibilities	Sometimes have a tendency to focus on new possibilities and the practicalities are missed
Prefer to work from the facts to the big picture	Prefer to work from the big picture to the facts
You believe that experience speaks louder than words	Place significant trust in insights and less in what is literally experienced
Take things literally	Take things figuratively

We see things not as they are but as we are. --author unknown

ANALYTICAL / DIPLOMATIC

Your responses relate to your perceptions of the world and will help determine whether you give **more weight to objective principles or to the relational concerns of the people involved when making decisions.**

ANALYTICAL	DIPLOMATIC
Concerned with the objective truth of a situation. Can give the impression of being impersonal and analytical in your approach to situations.	—Hold a people-oriented perspective and believe that the best decisions are made by considering the viewpoints of all persons involved.
Look for logical consistency and analysis of cause and effect explanations or solutions to most everything.	Concerned with whether or not decisions and actions are worthwhile.
Notice inconsistencies.	Often concerned with establishing or maintaining harmony in relationships.
Make decisions by removing personal concerns that may lead to biased or unfair decision making.	Make decisions based on what is best for the relationships between people involved.
Make decisions with your head, with a significant focus on equality or fairness.	Make decisions with your heart and want to be compassionate.
Believe telling the whole truth is more important than being tactful.	Being tactful is more important than telling the whole truth.
Sometimes miss seeing or valuing the people part of situations and can be perceived by others as too task-oriented, uncaring, or indifferent.	Sometimes miss seeing or communicating the hard truth of situations and can be perceived by others as too idealistic, too gentle, or indirect.

You know my thoughts even when I'm far away...You know everything I do. You know what I am going to say even before I say it, LORD. - Psalm 139:2-4

STRUCTURED / FLEXIBLE

Your responses to these statements will help you determine whether you prefer a more precise and structured lifestyle, or a more adaptable and flexible lifestyle.

STRUCTURED	FLEXIBLE
Prefer a planned way of life; like to have things organized	Prefer a more flexible and spontaneous way of life; like to understand & adapt to the world around you
Like to bring life under control to the degree that is possible	Like staying open to respond to whatever happens
Give the impression of being task-oriented	Appear more casual
Create lists of things to do	Like to keep laid-out plans to a minimum
Like to get work done before playing	Like to mix work and play
Plans work; dislikes rushing before a deadline	Work in bursts and enjoy rushing before deadlines
Can make decisions too quickly without all information	Can stay open to new information and miss making timely decisions
Sometimes can focus so much on the goal or plan that the need to change directions is missed	Sometimes can focus so much on adapting to the moment that a direction or plan is not decided on.
May internally feel flexible and open to new information	May internally feel organized and decisive
Most efficient when you have plenty of time to complete a project	Most efficient when you have little time to complete a project.

Your personal style may explain your behavior. It does not excuse it! -- Bruce Bugbee

PERSONAL STYLE SUMMARY

Each of the combinations [of mental processes-preferences] produces a different kind of personality, characterized by the *interests, values, needs, habits of mind, and surface traits that naturally result* from the combination. Combinations with a common preference will share some qualities, but each combination has qualities all its own, arising from the *interaction* of the preferred way of looking at life and the preferred way of judging what is seen. --Isabel Myers Briggs, *Gifts Differing*

The way I prefer to approach to the world around me is:

____EXTROVERSION (more active) __INTROVERSION (more reflective)

The way I prefer to take in information is more:

____FACTUAL (through five senses)

[INTUITIVE (by insight/intuition)

The way I prefer to order my life is more:

STRUCTURED (precise and orderly)

____FLEXIBLE

(adaptable and open)

The way I prefer to make decisions and come to closure on information is more:

____ANALYTICAL (objective/factual)

____DIPLOMATIC (personal/human concerns)

A significant part of your design is revealed through your personal style. It is another way God has put his divine fingerprint upon you. As a part of your servant profile, your style complements your passion and indicates the unique way your spiritual gift will be expressed. --Bruce Bugbee, *What You Do Best in the Body*

Input your information to the "Individuality" section of your **DESIGN PROFILE**

https://citychurchmpls.org/profile