

Temperament

Analyzing our temperament, or personality, is another tool to assist us in understanding where we might best serve in a church. Temperament answers the “how” do I serve question. Do I like to be fast pace, results oriented, or prefer to be behind the scene? Do I like to develop processes, or spend most my time interacting with people? Temperament often explains why people do what they do, and can provide simple insights concerning behavior, responses and motivation. Understanding temperament can also show you how to best enhance relationships and/or minimize conflicts by accomodating the behavioral style of others.

The simple exercise below will help identify your temperament, and will be discussed further in class.

Given the word choices below, check ten words that MOST reflect who you are.

- Stable - loyal; establishes close and deep relationships; sometimes too nice
- Imaginative - likes to think up new ideas (thinks more out-of-the-box)
- Demanding - inner drive to achieve results; outcome oriented
- Contemplative - wants time to think through decision; reserved; limited risk taker
- Impulsive - acts more on feelings; avoids detail; prefers to “wing it”

- Submissive - desire to please; adaptable; will do what needs to get done; hates confrontation
- Decisive - not afraid to make a decision; looks at detail and then reacts to information
- Interested in People - loves to be with people; network; often the life of the party; avoids confrontation
- Self-actualization - experience must have “meaning” beyond the event; wants to make a difference
- Calculating - likes thorough analysis and research; analytical and logical

- Doing - wants to “do” it rather than spending too much time “discussing” it
- Impressionable - makes great frist impression; fun; adventurous; enjoys the moment; optimistic
- Correctness - focuses on high quality information and results; quality and detail oriented
- Dominating - takes charge and is self motivated
- Influencing - action oriented and can motivate others into action; good talker/presenter

- Sensitive - heart of compassion; trusts intuition; understands other’s needs; very sensitive to criticism
- Careful - cautious to make decisions (without quality information and analysis); limited risk taker
- Supportive - nurturing; sees potential and growth in others
- Determined - excels under pressure; assertive; perseveres
- Critical of self - sets high standards; borders perfectist; hates to be wrong; sensitive to criticism

The results will be discussed in class