

Network Seminar 2

As we begin to look at our Personal Style, remember that you can have any Spiritual Gift with any Personal Style.

Let's begin with three truths about Personal Style:

1. Personal Style is God-given.
2. There is no right or wrong Personal Style. Personal Styles are just different.
3. Personal Style answers the "HOW" question: how can I best serve?

Read **Psalm 139:13-16**

For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.

We would not just created physically, but even our "inmost parts" are a part of God's handiwork. He has uniquely given each of us a Personal Style.

The Personal Style Assessment is not concerned about how you *can* relate, because any of us can relate any way at any given time. The purpose is to understand how you *prefer* to relate to your world and those around you. Again remember there is no right or wrong style. Knowing your Personal Style enables you to serve in ways you prefer that reflect the way God created you.

Get them to do the Personal Style Assessment.

So now let's have a look and unpack your Personal Style.

Serving in ways inconsistent with your Personal Style over time leads to

- Inauthentic relationships
- Decreased motivation
- Burnout

When we serve in ways that reflect our style, we will feel genuine and energized.

So let's quickly explore 2 key elements of your Personal Style.

How are you energized?

How are you organized?

1. How are you energized?

The scale reflects how you receive and focus your emotional energy. It indicates how you prefer to interact with people and tasks.

Are you more task-orientated or people-orientated?

Task-orientated people:

Are energized by doing things, accomplishing tasks, working with people who share your commitment to the task.

Can feel awkward or frustrated with a lot of relational activities.

People-orientated people:

Are energized by interpersonal relationships, people interaction, working with people in a team setting.

It's important to note that both groups value developing relationships and meeting goals. Both are concerned with relationships and getting the task done, but each has a primary and secondary means of achieving that task. You tend to start with where you are and then move in the other direction.

2. How are you organized?

The scale reflects how you prefer to organize your world. Are you more Unstructured or Structured?

Unstructured people:

- Put everything into piles
- A less concerned with being precise
- Prefer lots of options and flexibility
- Prefer a variety of activities
- Are comfortable and undefined situations
- Like spontaneous relationships

Structured people:

- Put everything into files
- Plan and bring order to their lives
- Enjoy stable, consistent relationships
- Make decisions and seek closure
- Are more detailed
- Like things clearly defined

Both value being organized, but each has a different approach. Some prefer files while others prefer piles.

One quick caution. When we talk about Personal Styles and see how different they are, there can be a tendency by some to use their style to justify their actions.

Personal Style does explain our behavior, but it does not EXCUSE it!

You maybe unstructured, but that does not excuse you from meeting deadlines and fulfilling responsibilities on time.

And if you're structured, you may be effective in getting things done, but there will be times when you'll need to make changes to what you have already completed.

There will be many times in life and ministry when you need to relate and serve others differently than with your preferred style. God gives you that ability because He values relationships. Know your Personal Style, and whenever possible, use it. When you can't, allow the Spirit to lead you so that God can be glorified and others edified.

Now let's put the two scales together.

Task Unstructured

You tend to:

- Like general guidelines
- Be versatile
- Get tangible results
- Help wherever needed

Serving opportunities could be:

- Room setup/breakdown
- Special events organizer
- Building projects team

Task Structured

You tend to:

- Get the job done
- Focus on results
- Follow an agenda
- Appreciate clear direction

Serving opportunities could be:

- Sound and lighting team
- Offering taker/counter
- Drama set builder

People Unstructured

You tend to:

- Be very conversational
- Be flexible
- Relate well with others
- Like spontaneous situations

Serving opportunities could be:

- Crisis hotline
- Greeter team
- Information Centre

People Structured

You tend to:

- Project warmth
- Like defined relationships
- Relate well with others
- Enjoy familiar surroundings

Serving opportunities could be:

- Small group leader
- Membership team
- Assimilation strategies

As you look for serving opportunities that are consistent with your Personal Style, you'll also want to consider your "Comfort Zone."

As illustrated by Mike, Todd, Keri, and Jenna, each of us has a certain Comfort Zone around us as indicated by the gray circle.

This is a condition of ease and well-being.

We are all like rubber bands. We can stretch in any direction at any time. But the more we stretch and the longer we stay there, the more we become tired, stressed, bored, or burnt out. Understanding your style will give you freedom and flexibility in moving toward various serving opportunities around your comfort zone.

Let's just do a quick little illustration.

On the next page there're two lines. A and B.

Take your pen and write your name on line "A."
Now switch hands, and write your name again on line "B."

Now just think about this experience. The first time you wrote your name, you didn't think much about it. You just did it.

When you switched hands, what happened?

We could say:

- It felt awkward
- You had to think about what you doing
- It was not as comfortable
- It took more time
- It probably was not as neat, or maybe it was neater.

While all these things are true, my guess is that you were able to write your name with the opposite hand. While it was not the hand you preferred to write with, you could do it. The point is to know your Personal Styles and to express them whenever possible.

Having identified our Spiritual Gifts, and just now our Personal Styles, we're brought to the last component of our Servant Profile.

What do you think of when you hear the name...

Billy Graham?

-Reaching lost people (Evangelism is a gift)

Mother Teresa?

-The needy, helpless... (Mercy is a gift)

When I mention these names, what comes to mind is their passion.

God cares for every need. You and I cannot. So in His wisdom, God chose to take a piece of His heart, and put it into your heart and mind, in the form of a Ministry Passion.

This is why you care about some things more than other things. That is why different people care about different things. It is by design. If we all cared about the same things, many needs would go unmet.

Our passion may:

- Right a wrong
- Meet a need
- Solve a problem
- Serve a cause
- Change a life

We should know three truths about Ministry Passion:

1. Ministry Passion is God-given
2. There is no right or wrong Ministry Passion. Ministry Passions are just different
3. Ministry Passion answers the "WHERE" question: "Where do I serve?"

God has a passion for us. **John 3:16**

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son...

God also has a purpose for the passion He puts in our hearts. **Philippians 2:13**

For it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose.

Passion may stir in you a deep sadness or great enthusiasm. It may burst out of you with great energy. Or steadily trickle through the events and relationships of your life.

Here are some other words you might use to communicate your Ministry Passion.

Anger	Assignment	Burden
Call	Compassion	Destiny
Dream	Energy	God's will
Impact	Inspired	Legacy
Motivated	Passion	Purpose
Significance	Vision	

Remember that Ministry Passions are NOT Spiritual Gifts. Spiritual Gifts are functions or tasks you perform. They are what you do.

Ministry Passions are feelings or desires that MOTIVATE you serve in particular ministry.

Get them to fill out the Ministry Passion Assessment.

Work through it with them.

Even though you have completed the Ministry Passion Assessment, you still maybe unsure of your passion. This is okay. Hopefully though you have at least have been able to identify the category in which you have a heartfelt desire. Clarifying your Passion is an ongoing process.

Watch DVD: Clarifying Your Ministry Passion - (Depending on Time...)

How did Lauren clarify her passion?

What additional insights came to Lauren, months later, which helped her better understand her Ministry Passion?

Remember that it can take a long time to clarify your Passion. That is okay.

Some common roadblocks can be:

- Low self-esteem
- Pride
- Unrepentant sin

Some people are afraid to name the Ministry Passion because they have a fear of:

- Rejection
- Accountability
- Failure
- Success

These hindrances are not from God.

God has given you a Ministry Passion as a part of your life purpose.

Fulfill the Ministry Passion He has given you!

Hebrews 12:1

Let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

Ephesians 2:10

For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

So now that we have explored all three elements let us put together our Servant Profile

The Servant Profile links together your:

- Spiritual Gifts
- Personal Style
- Ministry Passion

Remember you can have:
 Any Spiritual Gift, with
 Any Personal Style, with
 Any Ministry Passion!

So on your Servant Profile:

1. Write in your top three Spiritual Gifts as you best understand them.
2. Write in your Personal Style.
3. Write your Ministry Passion. Then write down your Ministry Passion Category.

Now that your Servant Profile is assembled, you can begin to think about how you can practically serve.

Let's look at some examples first.

Example of Daron and Wendy on Powerpoint... Go through it. Same Gift... Different Passion

Example of Ryan and Melinda on Powerpoint... Go through it. Same Passion... Different Gifts

Identifying your place of service is more of an art than it is a science.

When you can serve and faithfully express your Servant Profile, it's a good ministry fit.

Your natural talents, acquired skills, learned abilities, and life experiences can compliment and contribute to your effectiveness.

Is important to reflect on all that God has created you to be as you seek to glorify Him and edify others.

Have a serious thought about your ministry possibilities.

A couple of factors that impact the next step you will take with your Servant Profile are:

- Time availability
- Spiritual maturity

These determine whether you should make a Unique contribution or Community contribution

Your Unique contribution is serving where you are able to reflect your Servant Profile

When you're not able to reflect your Servant Profile, you should then make a Community contribution. Is serving where you aren't able to reflect your Servant Profile and serving in general ways.

Listen to the head of the body. God will use your time and maturity to grow you and minister through you.

A couple of thoughts about serving:

- Believers are to be worshippers for a lifetime
 - Not just weekend worshippers with summers off
- Believers are to be stewards for a lifetime
 - Not just token givers tipping God
- Believers are to be servants for a lifetime
 - Not just seasonal servants taking turns and rotating out
- Worship, Stewardship, and Servanthood apply to every believer:
 - Young and old
 - Single and married
 - Educated and uneducated
 - Working and unemployed
 - Male and female

Serving is for a lifetime, for every believer.

As Jesus came to serve us, He calls after serve one another. Let's watch this together and consider how He might be calling you.

DVD: Walk Worthy

Remember to fill in your ministry plan.

If you want further information, or to study deeper into your spiritual gifts, personal style, or ministry passion, please feel free to talk to one of the following coaches.

Pr André Hamilton

Barry Geelan

Alan Gray

Richard Santos

June Zuch

Stephen Payne

Imagine if all of us simply used whatever gift God has given us, look around those who are here, everything we get done with His power for His purpose.

Encourage them to continue the study of what God has given them and how they can use it with the Body of Christ/Church.