

BEYOND PERSONALITY

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I have to admit something up front—I don't particularly enjoy personality tests.

It's not that I think they're useless. Quite the opposite. I simply struggle with them because I find it difficult to narrow my tendencies into one neat category. When a question asks me to choose between two or more of my "preferences," I often feel like the honest answer is somewhere in the middle.

Yet personality tools can certainly be helpful. Many people have gained valuable insight through assessments like Myers-Briggs, Enneagram, DISC profiles, StrengthsFinder, Working Genius, or spiritual gift inventories. Even the popular concept of the Five Love Languages reflects an attempt to understand how people naturally express and receive love.

These tools can help us better understand ourselves and the people around us, even close friends or your spouse. They can improve communication, teamwork, and relationships. Used wisely, they can help us appreciate the diversity within the body of Messiah.

Do you hide behind your personality? The truth is that your personality cannot determine who God has called you to be or His plan for you to become.

When Personality Becomes a Limitation

Personality tests reveal our tendencies and preferences. They describe how we often behave or respond. But they should never become a boundary that defines what we believe we are capable of doing for the Kingdom of God.

Sometimes—without even realizing it—we begin to hide behind our personality.

We say things like:

“I’m just not a people person.”

“I’m not wired for leadership.”

“Evangelism isn’t my personality.”

“I’m more introverted, so I don’t really share my faith.”

In those moments, personality shifts from being a helpful insight to becoming a subtle crutch. If we are not careful, we allow personality to excuse us from spiritual obedience. Yet the Scriptures consistently challenge us to step beyond our natural inclinations.



The Call of Scripture Goes Beyond Personality

The Bible does not frame our calling in terms of personality types. Instead, it gives us clear instructions about how we are to live and treat one another. We are told:

“Love one another deeply from the heart.” (1 Peter 1:22)

“Bear one another’s burdens.” (Galatians 6:2)

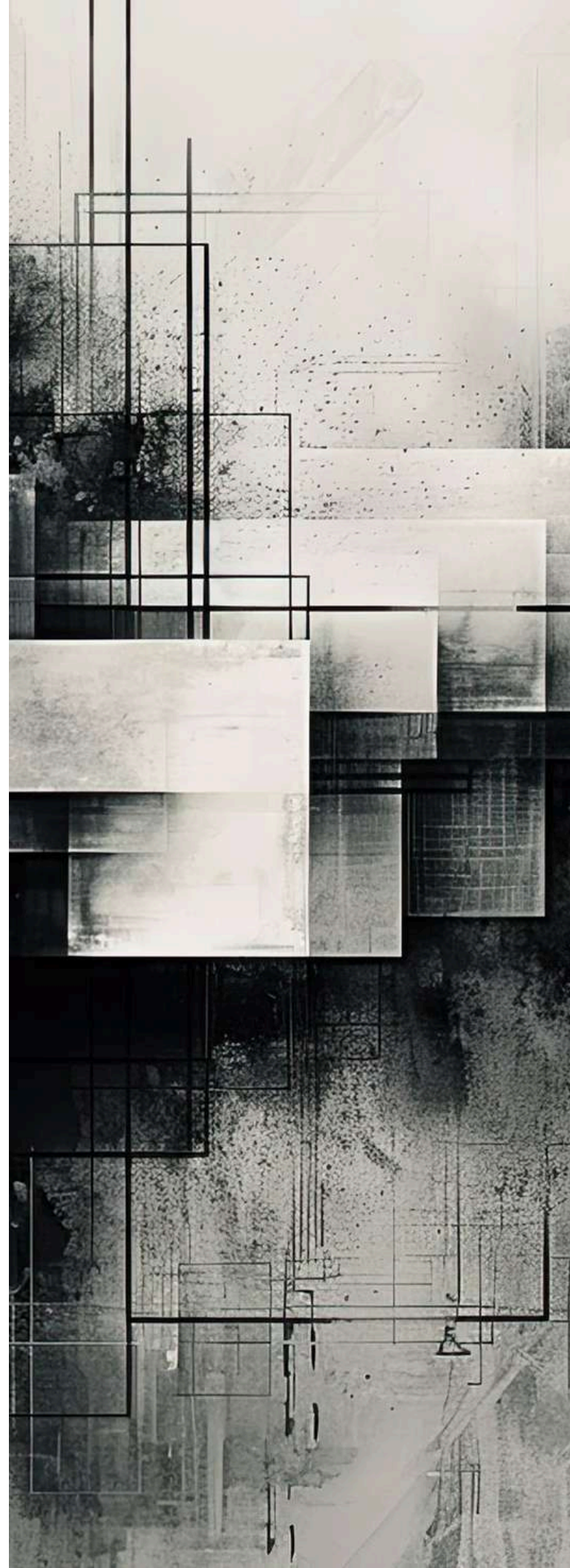
“Encourage one another and build each other up.” (1 Thessalonians 5:11)

“Be kind to one another, tenderhearted.” (Ephesians 4:32)

None of these commands come with personality exemptions. God’s instructions to His people are not limited to those who naturally enjoy them. They are invitations to grow into the character of Messiah.

Even sharing our faith is presented this way. Some people are clearly gifted evangelists, but every believer is still called to be a witness. Yeshua said: *“You will receive power when the Ruach HaKodesh has come upon you; and you will be My witnesses.”* (Acts 1:8)

Notice that He did not say, “Some of you will be My witnesses if your personality is suited for it.” The empowerment of the Holy Spirit was given precisely because we need divine help to step beyond our natural comfort zones.



The Transforming Work of the Spirit

One of the beautiful truths of the Scriptures is that God does not leave us trapped inside our limitations. The Ruach HaKodesh transforms us. When we come to faith in Yeshua, we are not simply forgiven—we are also being reshaped into His image.

Paul reminds us:

“For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and self-discipline.” (2 Timothy 1:7)

Many of us have experienced moments where the Holy Spirit nudged us to do something outside our personality proclivity. Perhaps it was speaking encouragement to someone, praying for a stranger, initiating reconciliation, or sharing the story of what God has done in our lives. In those moments we often feel the tension between our personality and our obedience.

But here is the remarkable thing: when we step out in faith, God meets us there. He provides courage we didn't know we had. He gives grace in the moment. And sometimes we discover that we are capable of far more than we assumed.

Biblical Examples of People Who Grew Beyond Themselves

Scripture is full of individuals who had to move beyond their natural tendencies. Moses initially resisted God's call because he felt inadequate as a speaker. He told the Lord:

“I am not a man of words... I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.” (Exodus 4:10)





Yet Moses ultimately became the leader who spoke God's words before Pharaoh and guided Israel through the wilderness.

Gideon saw himself as the least in his family and from the weakest clan (Judges 6:15). Yet God called him a "mighty warrior" before Gideon ever believed it about himself.

Peter, impulsive and often unpredictable, later became a bold witness after the outpouring of the Spirit at Shavuot (Acts 2).

The pattern is consistent throughout Scripture: God calls people beyond who they think they are.

Stepping Into Who God Is Calling You To Be

So how do we keep personality in its proper place without allowing it to limit our obedience?

Here are a few practical ways to move forward.

1. Let Scripture Define Your Calling

Your identity and calling must ultimately come from God's Word, not from personality descriptions. The Scriptures describe who we are in Messiah: a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people (1 Peter 2:9).

We are called to proclaim His goodness and reflect His character. Personality may shape how you express that calling, but it never replaces it.

2. Listen to the Voice of the Holy Spirit

The *Ruach HaKodesh* often leads us into moments that stretch us. When you sense that quiet prompting—to encourage someone, reach out, pray, or speak truth—pause and consider whether the Spirit may be guiding you.

Yeshua promised that the Spirit would guide us and empower us (John 16:13). Obedience in those small moments gradually expands our capacity to serve.

3. Practice Courage in Small Steps

Growth rarely happens all at once. If something feels outside your comfort zone, start with small steps of faith. Speak a word of exhortation. Offer to pray for someone. Initiate a conversation about what God has been doing in your life.

Over time, those steps build spiritual courage. As the prophet Zechariah reminds us: *“Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit, says the Lord.”* (Zechariah 4:6)

4. Trust That God Supplies the Grace

Often the greatest barrier is the fear that we will not know what to say or do. Yet God promises to supply grace when we step forward in obedience. Paul wrote:

“I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.” (Philippians 4:13)

That does not mean we suddenly become someone else. But it does mean that God’s strength fills the places where we feel weak.

Becoming More Than Your Personality

Personality is not the enemy. It is part of the unique way God created you. But it was never meant to be a ceiling on your spiritual life.



The calling of God invites us into transformation—to grow beyond who we once were and to increasingly reflect the character of Yeshua. With the power of the Ruach HaKodesh, you can do far more than what your personality alone might suggest.

And when you step out in faith, you will often discover something remarkable: God has already placed within you everything you need to become who He is calling you to be.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Benjamin Juster".

Benjamin Juster
Editor in Chief

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