



Meeting with God 3 WE LOVE INTROVERTS & EXTROVERTS



DISCUSSION TOPICS

- Both EXTROVERTS and INTROVERTS have STRENGTHS and WEAKNESSES that affect how they meet with God.
- Your E or I can be a GREAT GIFT to the church.

Which is your most natural source of Mental Energy? Every person has two faces. One is directed towards the OUTER world of activities, excitement, people + things. The other is directed inward to INNER world of thoughts, interests, ideas + imagination.

While these are two different, but complementary sides of our nature, most people have innate preference towards energy from either OUTER or INNER world. Thus one of their faces, either *Extroverted* (E) or *Introverted* (I), takes lead in their personality development + plays more dominant role in their behaviour"

CHARACTERISTICS OF INTROVERTS v EXTROVERTS

INTROVERTS	EXTROVERTS
Enjoy SOLITUDE	Love SOCIAL EVENTS
Work better ALONE	Energised by PEOPLE AROUND THEM
Prefer ONE-TO-ONE conversations	Favour GROUP discussion
Surround themselves with CLOSE FAMILY & FRIENDS	Sociable and upbeat in NEW SURROUNDINGS
THINK first, then ACT	ACT first, then THINK
Regularly require PRIVATE TIME to recharge batteries	Feel deprived when cut off from interaction with OUTSIDE WORLD of people + things
MIND is sometimes so active, it is CLOSED to outside world	Usually OPEN to + MOTIVATED by outside world of people + things

→ *Carl Jung said: "There is no such thing as a pure extrovert or introvert. Such a man would be in the lunatic asylum." Do you agree? Are you, perhaps, an 'ambivert,' which is someone somewhere in the middle?*

IN CHURCH CONTEXT

- *What would the perfect prayer meeting look like to your personality?*
- * Extroverts FEED OFF other people; introverts try to AVOID CROWDS.
 - * Extroverts perched on FRONT ROW; introverts HIDE AT FRINGES.
 - * Extroverts get STRAIGHT INTO IT; introverts need to be OPEN UP, takes a little longer, by nature.
 - * Extroverts run to ACTION; introverts need to be COAXED.
 - * Introverts think WITHDRAWAL + SOLITUDE are natural + healthy; extroverts think to withdraw is a sign of MALFUNCTION ... something must be wrong.
 - * Extroverts love PRAISE; introverts are STANDING BACK: watching, listening, reflecting.
- *Ponder each of those pairs. Which way do you lean and why? Is that a good thing?*

WHAT DO WE DO DIFFERENTLY?

1. HEAR FROM GOD

→ *What are the innate differences in the way Is & Es access worship, Word, prophetic ... or the way they inter-relate, express gifts or serve?*

- * E = DISCUSSION / in the DOING / more TACTILE / want it STRAIGHT & PRACTICAL.
- * I = REFLECTION / in the THINKING / more CREATIVE / want it THOUGHTFUL + PROVOCATIVE.
- * For E, God often speaks prophetically through EXTERNAL sources.
- * For I, God speaks through THOUGHTS + PICTURES.

- PRAISE & WORSHIP ... Extroverts like it bouncier, louder, more physical + expressive
 - * We need praise to BREAKTHROUGH ... To make the transition from hiding behind FLESH to open to the SPIRIT.

→ *Do more naturally warm to loud praise or quieter worship? Why is praise so important (think Paul & Silas, Psalm 100:4)? How do you feel when the loud bouncy action song kicks in? Why is physical participation helpful in transitioning us from self / flesh / our own world TO God / Spirit / His world?*

3. RESPONSE

- * Introvert or extrovert, we must be SURRENDERED to the Lord and OPEN the Holy Spirit.

→ *Who naturally responds quicker? If the Lord calls or if the Word requires or if conviction or repentance are in the air? How about you? Have you ever responded in a service? If not, why not? Do you tend towards ministry prayer corner or doing business with God yourself? Is there a difference between how men and women respond?*

A GIFT TO THE CHURCH

Es and Is tend to be SUSPICIOUS of each other, which is okay until it spills over into CRITICISM and BAD ATTITUDES.

→ *Have you ever been guilty of this, even if just inwardly? Do you see it differently now? What is it that the other lot bring that you haven't appreciated?*

- * Extroverts can help introverts to BREAK FREE.
- * Introverts can help extroverts to DIG DEEPER.

→ *How does this work?*

POINT: Don't DESPISE the differences, EMBRACE them ... Rejoice that they do, so you don't have to! We need what you bring and what they bring.

Thank you, Lord, for a) PRAISERS, b) FIRST-RESPONDERS <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GA8z7f7a2Pk>
c) VOCAL people, who draw on the ANOINTING (brick wall v sponge)

- * Some has to be a CATALYST (spark, first-responder); someone has to DIG DEEP (pray it through, pick up the whispers)

I or E doesn't affect WHETHER you're an asset to Body ... maybe HOW ... c.f. Which physical body part you are, doesn't affect WHETHER you're useful, but HOW ... Little toe, kidneys, ear