

**A Different Perspective**  
**Personality GPS - Which Personality Type Am I?**  
**09-43-1**  
***God's Personality System***

I'm really excited this week because I'm joined once again on the program by my good friend Keith Henry. Now last time he was on the program – about a year ago – we had such a huge response. That's because Keith's done a lot of work in understanding personality types. Now, I'm not talking about all the world's personality type systems – you know the Myers Briggs and all those other ones that people use. As someone said to me – why are you bothering with this stuff. It's all old hat. Been there, done that. No, Keith's gone back to God's Word to discover that actually God Himself talks about the different personality types He's created.

And the whole point of Keith's work as I understand it – is for us to understand who God intended us to be. We're made in His image and of course we've been marred by all the mistakes that we've made in life.

But if God wants to restore us back into His image – to be like Him – then what does that look like? You and I – we're all different. Wouldn't be great if we really truly knew who we are ... and in fact who we aren't. Wouldn't it be amazing if we could locate ourselves – and not only ourselves but the people around us and by understanding who we all are and how it is that God's wired each one of us differently inside – live the life that God had always planned. Live our lives to the full, by knowing who we are.

And that's why Keith has called his work – the Personality GPS – it's about locating ourselves. Is that right Keith?

Keith: Absolutely. And it's great to be with you Berni.

Berni: Mate it's great to have you back on the program. How have you been keeping?

Keith: Really, really well. Excited that you and I have been working together on this book, Personality GPS and I can't wait for it to be out.

Berni: Yes, me neither. You really do get excited about this work the Personality GPS. We'll explain what that means in a minutes. Actually, tell me about it right now. What's the value proposition. Why is this tool different to all the other personality systems that have been around for ages.

Keith: Well the basic thing, Berni, is that all the other systems come from the world. They're all about me, who I am, what I can get out of life. But with Jesus it's about living life to the full. Not so much about what can get but what we can give. How can we let the love of God flow us and into other people and the world. One day I was reading in Romans Chapter 12 and it struck me, it's who we are in God that brings us up to being all that we can be. Finding our function and meaning in who we are and what we can have but in being in the right relationship with God and with other people.

Berni: Makes sense doesn't it. You think about it as a performer, a virtuoso violinist. And if the violinist doesn't have an audience it doesn't mean much, you can be a leader or an encourager or whatever you are. But if there is no one to lead and no one to encourage ... well, so what?

Keith: Absolutely. So discovering our personality type is so important. It's who we are. Who other people are, so we can live together with a powerful sense of community.

Berni: Why GPS? What's this all about?

Keith: Well Berni, I'm an encourager and one of the things with us is that I get lost all the time. My wife's like that. I can't find my way around. I'm not spatially very strong. GPS satellite navigation in the car is all about knowing where you are and never getting lost. So many people are lost in their relationships and in their lives. They don't know who they are or what they've been made to do. They can't understand what other people are and so relationships are a mess and they can never really experience the plan that God has for their lives.

Berni: OK. I remember landing in England once. It was dark, my plane was late and I had to get to somewhere. It was the first time I used the GPS and it was just wonderful. It really took the stress out of things so I can really relate to that. It's a good title – Personalty GPS. And over the next 3 weeks on the program as I understand it Keith, you are going to be with us explaining that in quite a bit of depth.

Keith: Absolutely Berni, not just me but we're also going to be interviewing people, one of each of the nine personality types.

Berni: That's really good. I'm looking forward to that. Now, Keith you talk about the nine personality types. As I understand

things, you've gone back to the source, God's Word, the Bible, to discover those types. Is that correct?

Keith: Where else Berni. And I so struck me how clear it is. It's been there all along. This thing about Personality Types, if only we would have a look at Romans Chapter 12 in the New Testament.

Berni: OK. Let's have a look then. I'm going to read it from the Message translation. It's a really contemporary take on all of this. Have a listen, Romans Chapter 12 beginning at Verse 2:

*Unlike the culture around you, always dragging down to it's level of immaturity, God brings the best out of you and develops well-formed maturity in you. It's important that you don't misinterpret yourselves as people who are bringing this goodness to God. No! God brings it all to you. The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and by what He does for us. Not by what we are and what we do for Him.*

*In this way, we're all like the various parts of the human body. Each part gets it's meaning from the body as a whole. Not the other way around. The body we're talking about is Christ's body of chosen people. Each of us finds our meaning and a function as a part of this body. But as a chopped off finger or a cut off toe, we wouldn't amount to much would we?*

*So since we find ourselves fashioned into these excellently formed and marvellously functioning parts of Christ's body, let's just go ahead and be what we were made to be, without enviously or pridefully comparing ourselves with one another or trying to be something that we aren't.*

*If you preach, just preach God's message, nothing else. If you help, just help don't take over. If you teach stick to your teaching. If you give encouraging guidance be careful you don't get bossy. If you're put in charge, don't manipulate. If you're called to give aid to people in distress keep your eyes open and be quick to respond. If you work with the disadvantaged don't let yourself get irritated with them or depressed by them. Keep a smile on your face. Love from the centre of who you are and don't fake it.*

Berni: Pretty powerful stuff isn't it Keith. What does this do in your heart for you? What do you learn from this passage?

Keith: Well, here in Romans Chapter 12 this is what makes the Personality GPS so different. I love the way it says that we only discover our meaning and our function in relationship with God and with other people. What you were saying before about the virtuoso violinist, it's about knowing who we are as part of the body. That picture of the chopped off finger and the toe – how useless, but that's what the whole 'me' centred world is all about – it's useless.

The power of what God's saying here is that we find our meaning and our fulfilment in serving one another. And that's the truth of it. That's what Personality GPS is all about. That's what we're going to be talking about over the next three weeks.

Berni: Ain't that the truth. I spent the first 36 years of my life doing the 'chopped off finger' thing. I didn't realise it, but how obvious is it that it just doesn't work. And as far as I can see, what this Personality GPS things is all about is being restored back into God's image. Back the way we were meant to be. I don't know if you remember Keith that painting, Rembrandt's night watch. And when they first found it, they thought it was a night scene, but when they cleaned it up and took the dark lacquer off, they discovered it was a daytime scene. And that's what this Personality GPS strikes me about. It's about getting back to who God intended us to be and who God made us to be. Is that what it's about?

Keith: That's right Berni. Exactly.

Berni: I think it's awesome when I landed that time in the UK when it was dark and it was wet and I had to navigate from London's Heathrow up into the midlands where I was going in the middle of the night. It was a scary thing. But just having that GPS made it really easy. And my hunch is, if we can discover who we are, you discover who you are, me who I am, all of a sudden relationships become clear. Who we are, what we're meant to do where we are meant to be going become clear.

Keith: That's right.