

A Different Perspective
Personality GPS – Which Personality Type Am I? (1)
09-43-5
With all My Strength

It's fantastic to be with you again and can you believe it, it's Friday already? Time flies when you're having fun and we've been having a lot of fun on the program here this week with my good friend Keith Henry.

If you've been with us during the week you'll know that Keith's a man who's gone into God's word to discover that God made us all differently and we need to understand ourselves and others. How our different personalities have been wired differently so that we can live out our lives to the full.

And the way Keith's been helping us to do that is by this simple tool, Personality GPS. Which kind of sets the nine different personality types, based on Romans chapter 12, on a simple clock face. The different personality types are grouped together in four different quadrants.

The other day we looked at the holistic personality types. The people who see the big picture. These are the 'soul' people from 12 o'clock to 3 o'clock on the clock face. Then there were the people who are motivated by their emotions primarily, the 'heart' people. From 3 o'clock to 6 o'clock on the clock face.

And then we looked at the people who come at things through their minds. These are the detailed people. From 6 o'clock to 9 o'clock on the clock face. And today we're going to look at the last group, from 9 'til 12. The people who come at things through their will. These are the strong people.

Berni: Isn't it funny how we want other people to be like us? I mean, in fact, the more I think about it the more that's probably why people don't get on together. Either they clash or they just kind of drift apart and never get close.

Keith: Berni, in a sense you've hit the nail right on the head. It's what personality GPS is all about and you know what, I love the message translation of Romans chapter 12 because it really brings out what Gods been saying to us all along. It's a contemporary way of understanding who we are.

Berni: Okay, let's have a look at it again. I like it too. Romans chapter 12, beginning at verse 2 through to verse 6. Let's read it:

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

"In this way, we're like the various parts of a 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 our function as part of His 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 all these excellently formed and marvellously functioning parts of Christ's body, let's just go ahead and be what we are made to be. Without enviously or pridefully comparing ourselves with each other or trying to be something or someone that we aren't."

Keith: The worlds culture, the 'me, me, me' thing, really drags us down. And Paul talks about pride. As a part of that, do you know what we do? We assume that everyone should be just like us.

Berni: Well shouldn't they? (Both laugh) Sorry.

Keith: Well we do think that actually and get disappointed. They should see things the way that we see things. They should do things the way that we do them. And so often we have these prideful expectations of people which won't be met because, wait for it, they're different to us.

Berni: Oh, is that what it is? (Both laugh)

Keith: That's what it is. That's the whole point and that's why we need to understand how we're hard wired and what other people are and how they're hard wired. How they see things. What they're good at. What their personality type is. Otherwise we'd just all be cut off fingers and cut off toes and we'd be trying to be something that we're not.

Berni: And I guess Keith that's what this simple tool that you've developed, Personality GPS, is all about. Us finding our meaning and our function. Not as a cut off finger or a cut off toe but in our

relationship with God and in our relationship with other people. I mean, think about it, the eye would be pretty useless unless it had a body to go with, wouldn't it?

Keith: It would be.

Berni: And the finger's pretty useless unless it's got a body to go with.

Keith: That's right.

Berni: Well let's go on now and have a look at the last of the four quadrants. Over these last few days, as we've said, we've looked at each of the different motivations that we come from. The other day we looked at the 'soul' people from 12 o'clock til 3 o'clock on the GPS clock face. Then we looked at the 'heart' people from 3 o'clock to 6 o'clock. Yesterday we looked at the 'mind' people, the detail people, from 6 o'clock to 9 o'clock. And today we're going to a place that I'm really going to enjoy, we're going to look at the 'will' people from 9 o'clock to 12 o'clock on the clock face.

So tell us about the personality types we find in this fourth quadrant. 9 o'clock to 12 o'clock. The 'will' people, the strong people. How do we know if we're in this particular quadrant? How do we know if this is where we come from, through the will?

Keith: Well, as you said, they're strong will people. Now what they're about is action. You know that saying 'just do it now'. That's them. They're practical and realistic. They're good at making decisions. Most people aren't good at making decisions but they will make decisions and get on with it now. They're quick, they're firm decisions and they put them into action. They don't, sort of, talk about them for a long time before doing them. And they're great at problem solving. So they're the ones that climb the mountains and deep sea diving and do all the adrenalin things.

Berni: Yeah, I can kind of relate to that. These are my kind of people. The other day we talked about, we get all these different people, four different people. One of the heart people, one of the soul people, one of the mind people and now, one of these will people and we're all going on a big long car ride. We're going to drive 1,000 miles across the country in the car.

Keith: Yes.

Berni: Now tell me about the 'will' people. Tell me how they would approach it, a big long car drive.

Keith: Well everything's a project to them Berni. So if it's a ten hour car drive, okay we're all up at 5.30 am, we're off at 6.00 am on the dot and we won't stop 'til we get there.

Berni: Yo, you beauty!

Keith: That's the project, is getting there, it's not the journey on the way.

Berni: Yes. Absolutely. Now what are the two personality types here in this 'will' quadrant? You've got one at 10 o'clock and one at 11 o'clock. Tell me about those two quickly.

Keith: That's right. The 10 o'clock is the prophet. They're the people who are black and white.

Berni: Now this is a funny word. We don't hear that word 'prophet' in common usage much anymore. So they're black and white.

Keith: Well I suppose you could call them the righteous ones, right. There's a right way and there's a wrong way. A correct way and a incorrect way. That's how they see life. They also see life internally because they have to be correct. So while they're not strong willed, necessarily, always outside, externally. They're strong internally. They don't want to do the wrong thing. They have high integrity, that sort of person. Now if you look at the strong willed leader type personality, this is the 11 o'clock.

Berni: The 11 o'clock. So the prophet at 10 o'clock, the leader at 11 o'clock in this quadrant.

Keith: Right. They are out to conquer the world. They use their will externally to drive things, to get things done, to accomplish things. Action people.

Berni: Okay. These people in the 'will' quadrant, what do we miss out on if we don't have them? I mean, why do we need them around?

Keith: They are the project leaders. The prophet is often the manager and often the engineer and the leader is the leader of the pack. They're the ones going out and setting the project, getting it started and getting it finished. 'Cause that's very unusual in personalities, actually getting something started and finishing it and that's what they do, they drive it.

Berni: Keith, it's been a great week with you on the program. Now next couple of weeks on the program, we've talked about really quickly, only a high level look at each of the nine personality types across these four quadrants on the clock face. But over the next couple of weeks, you've organised something special for us, tell us that.

Keith: What we're going to do is get one of each personality type and we're actually going to talk to them about how they think about the world.

Berni: Well that is going to be really interesting. In the next couple of weeks on the program, I don't want to miss out of that so I'm going to be here.

Keith: Terrific.