

BE A BRINGER

“40 One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. 41 He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ). 42 And he brought him to Jesus....” John 1:40-42a

A bringer makes one touch each week by investing and inviting someone to Christ and church.

Name three people you will pray for their salvation this week:

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR THE WEEK

“Moreover, as for me, far be it from me that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you;....” I Samuel 12:23a

Steve & Debbie Poston
Missionaries
to Mexico



Please Contact Them at
stevepostonmx@yahoo.com



GROWTH GUIDE

Handout: 2/5

Study: 2/12

Personality

What is your unique identity? God has made you a special, one-of-a-kind person by giving you various skills and talents. And he has also placed within you certain personal preferences and a distinct personality that makes you a one-of-a-kind individual—a person designed to do things in ways only you can do. God has made you in his image like a complex snowflake, a unique person who stands out to him as his special and original creation. God intends you to use the unique characteristics he gave you to relate not only to him but to others as well. “Just as our bodies have many parts,” Paul said, “and each part has a special function, so it is with Christ’s body. We are all parts of his one body, and each of us has different work to do. And since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others” (Romans 12:4-5).

There will never be another you.

God has specially gifted you to fill a role—a purpose—that no one else can fill. You and I want to know our place in this world. God has crafted us specifically for that place that we—and only we—can fill. You have unique characteristics with which to love and live for God in a way that only you are empowered to do. God needs you because there will never be another who can fill that place as you can.

And he wants to exercise his love and life in and through you in a unique and original fashion. Paul declares, *There are different ways God works in our lives, but it is the same God who does the work through all of us. A spiritual gift is given to each of us as a means of helping the entire church...It is the one and only Holy Spirit who distributes these gifts. He alone decides which gift each person should have* (1 Corinthians 12:6-7, 11).

Some aspects of your uniqueness are readily apparent. Your personal identification is distinctly yours. Your fingerprints are unique; your retina scans are distinct; your face and body are at least slightly different from those of anyone else who ever existed on the planet. But it’s not always so easy to understand the distinctiveness with which God created you and what gifts the Holy Spirit has distributed to you. You can learn to identify your distinctiveness by paying attention to how your mind works and what draws your interest. God has instilled within you certain passions: things you feel strongly about, things you’re fervently interested in, things that give you a special sense of joy when you talk about them or pursue them. Those passions direct you to whom, where, and what God wants you to love in life...as only you can. Can you specifically identify your God-given passions? Let’s take some time this week and discover your one-of-a-kind distinct personality.

Josh McDowell, The Unshakable Truth.

KEY VERSE

“Your hands have made me and fashioned me; Give me understanding, that I may learn Your commandments.” (Psalm 119:73, NKJV)

WEEKLY READINGS

Monday: Read Psalm 139:14; Genesis 1:27

Read the following statement from the book, *LifeKeys: Discover Who You Are*.

“Your personality type is really your essential nature, a framework for describing your strengths and preferences for gaining energy, gathering information, making decisions, and approaching life.”

Thinking about the above statement, how would you describe your personality?

Tuesday: Read Ephesians 2:10; Proverbs 3:5-6

Do you agree with the following phrase?

“You can be anything you want to be if you just work hard enough.”

As individuals do we have limitations?

Reflect back on your childhood dreams and interests. Is there anything you would like to recapture?

Consider watching the movie, *The Kid*, where a man is confronted by his childhood dreams as he turns forty.

Monday: Read Psalm 46:1; Jeremiah 31: 3; Matthew 10:30

Do you believe you are gifted by God?

God’s dream for each of us is so vastly greater than the largest dream we have for ourselves. But what is his dream for us? I believe he has given us clues to what that dream is. And the longings and yearnings buried in each of us often provide those clues. It is like being on a cosmic treasure hunt. Follow one clue and it will lead you to another . . . and then to another . . . until you find the treasure himself. For to find God and his ultimate will for us is to find ourselves. This is the discovery for which all of creation stands on tiptoe— to see God’s sons and daughters coming into their own.

Thursday: Read Nehemiah 2:12

What is your passion or what are you passionate about?

Webster’s defines passion as a powerful emotion: “Passion, fervor, ardor, enthusiasm, zeal.” The word enthusiasm comes from the Greek phrase *en theos*, “with God”. Thus, if you are enthusiastically pursuing a passion that God has put in your heart, you are doing it with God! You’ve found those good works God prepared in advance for you.

Fill in the blank for the verse below.

“For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared _____ that we should walk in them.” (Ephesians 2:10, NKJV)

Friday: Read Verses Found Below

Reflect on the following three themes to go deeper and discover the purpose for which God created you!

- Do you believe that you are created in the image of God? (Psalm 139)
“You are a valuable soul just as you are . . . even in the small things you do—God cares and loves you.” “See yourself as a person of value because God made you uniquely.”
- Do you believe that God has given you a special blend of life gifts, spiritual gifts, personality type, and values? That you are indeed fearfully and wonderfully made? (Romans 12:4-6; 2 Peter 1:3-4)
- Do you believe that God has planned good works for you to do? (Jeremiah 29:11; Ephesians 2:10; Philippians 1:6)

Are you willing to commit to being focused on God’s vision for your life? To be fueled by the passion He puts in your heart as you use your giftedness to ensure God’s dream for you?

Are you willing to pray the following?

I want to make a commitment to action, be it in continuing on the journey of discovering what God has created me to be or carrying out those good works prepared in advance for me.

Can you say with your heart, in a paraphrase of Ephesians 2:10: “For I am fearfully and wonderfully made by God, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared in advance for me to be my way of life”?

It is true— you are a valuable soul just as you are! Whatever God has chosen for your good works, they are chosen to fit your way of life, your calling, your mission.