



***Theme: Beautiful and Beloved – Enneagram and Understanding  
“Abraham, the Man at the Pool, and the Peaceful Person – Type 9”***

Sermon preached by Jeff Huber

September 12-13, 2020

**Scriptures: Ephesians 4:15, Genesis 12:1-3 and John 5:1-15**

**VIDEO Sermon Starter**

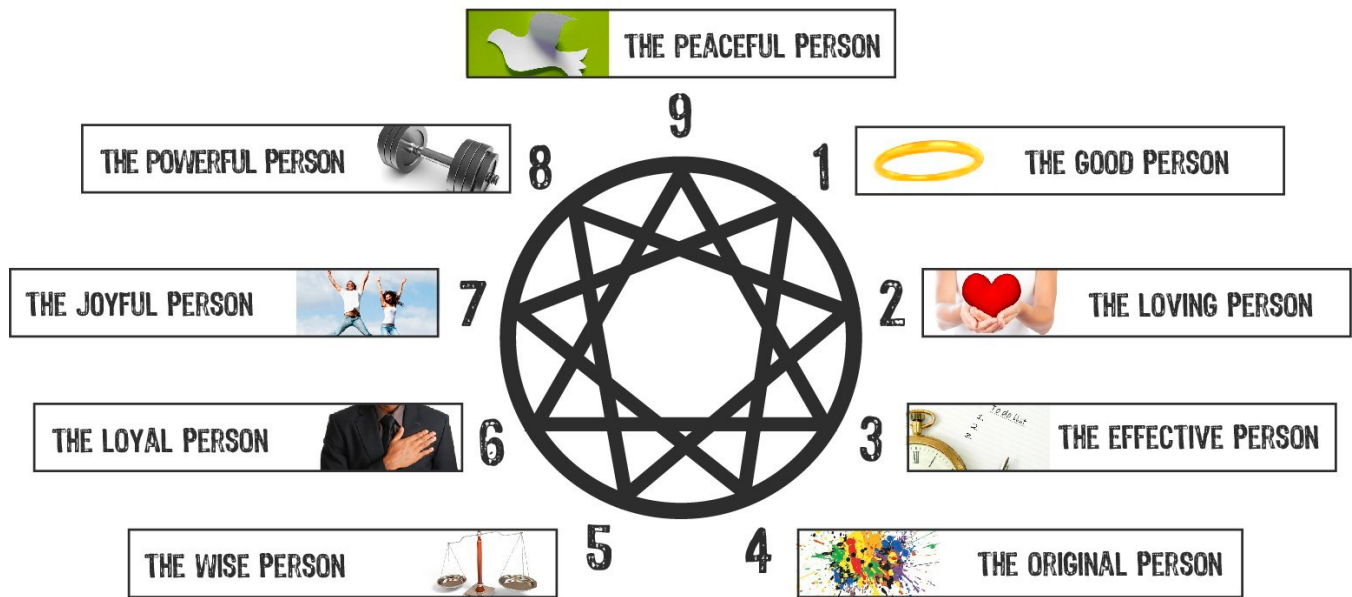
**SLIDE “Abraham, the Man at the Pool, and the Peaceful Person – Type 9”**

My name is Jeff Huber and I’m Lead Pastor here at Summit Church. We’ve are in the middle of a sermon series looking at what it takes to love God and love others as we love ourselves. To do that, we’ve been using a tool called the Enneagram. I have been reminding you each week that the Enneagram is simply a tool that can serve the Gospel. I realize not all may be familiar with this tool, but many of you have sent me notes and emails about how helpful it has been to look at what motivates you, and the people around you.

In case you have not seen some of the visuals we have been using, you can check out our Enneagram Resource page on our website which is under the resources tab. We have been looking at images like these, where we see the different types and it gives us a summary of them.

**GRAPHIC Enneagram Personality Types - Persons**

# PERSONALITY TYPES

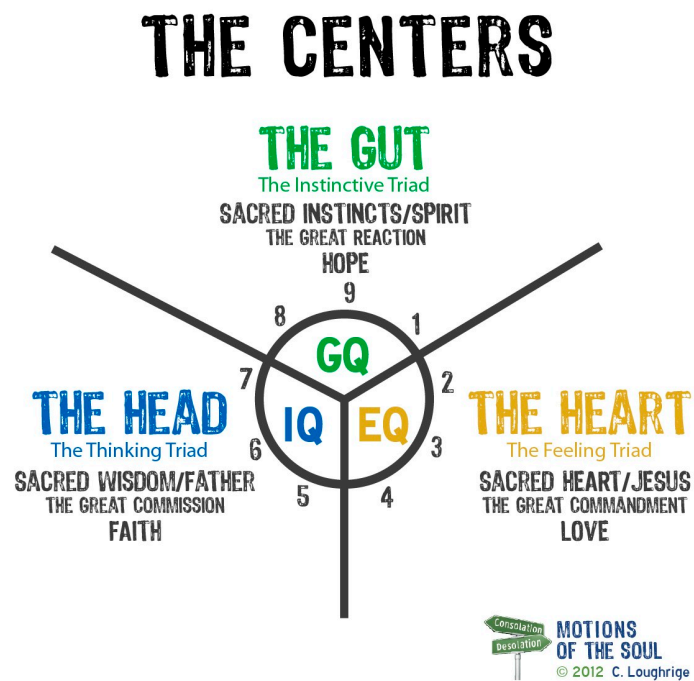


This diagram shows how we are talking about each type in our Spiritual Formation Resource on our resource page. Jesus said to love God with your heart; which is represented by type 2, the loving person, type 3, the effective person, and type 4, the original person; your soul which is meant to capture the entirety of what it means to be connected to God and Christ; your mind which is represented by types 5, the wise person, type 6, the loyal person and type 7, the joyful person; and your strength or gut which is represented by type 8, the powerful person, type 9, the peaceful person, and type 1, the good person.

Today, we turn to type 8, known as the powerful person and this is the

first of what is known as the gut triad. Notice that this diagram gives you some other words, like **feeling for heart**, **thinking for head** and **instinct for gut**. They are represented in some ways by the Trinity, Father or Creator and Wisdom for the head, the Holy Spirit for the gut, and Jesus for the heart. They are represented by the Great Commandment, the Great Commission and the **Great Reaction**. And I love the idea of faith, **hope** and love as the Apostle Paul talks about. In these three types we find biblical characters like Martha, Paul, John the Baptist and Abraham, who we'll talk about today.

**GRAPHIC            Enneagram Head-Faith Gut-Hope Heart-Love**



You might be a type 9, if this graphic fits you.

**GRAPHIC            Type 9 at Their Best and Worst**

## Enneagram Type 9

### AT THEIR BEST

Pleasant  
Peaceful  
Generous  
Patient  
Accepting  
Diplomatic  
Open-Minded  
Emphatic  
Caring

### AT THEIR WORST

Spaced-Out  
Forgetful  
Stubborn  
Obsessive  
Resigned  
Passive-Aggressive  
Judgemental  
Unassertive  
Self-Forgetting



Your **Enneagram** Coach

One thing to notice on this chart is a truth in life that we also find in the scriptures. Notice that these attributes of being at our best or worst are on a continuum. **What starts out as a good thing can easily become dangerous and sinful, causing brokenness and separation between us and God and us and others.** The seven deadly sins are the same way. The **good gift of food can become gluttony.** The **good gift of sex can become lust.** The **good gift of knowing we are made by God to be loved by God, having a positive self-image, can become pride.**

Jesus talked about being away of what was going on in hearts, and what **motivates us because what should be an asset in our lives, a good gift from God, can easily become a liability and destructive,** depending on what we

choose to put first. Remembering that **Jesus is Lord and Savior is meant to remind us that we are not God and we need something bigger than ourselves to keep us on track.** The point of the Enneagram is to help us discover what motivates us, just as Jesus asked us to pay attention to what is going on in our hearts.

I was able this week to spend time with Maly Strietzel. Maly is a homeopathic health provider and works on our staff team. She is a 9 on the Enneagram and was willing to spend some time with me this week talking about that.

**QUESTION: Maly, how does that list we shared on being a type 9 strike you?**

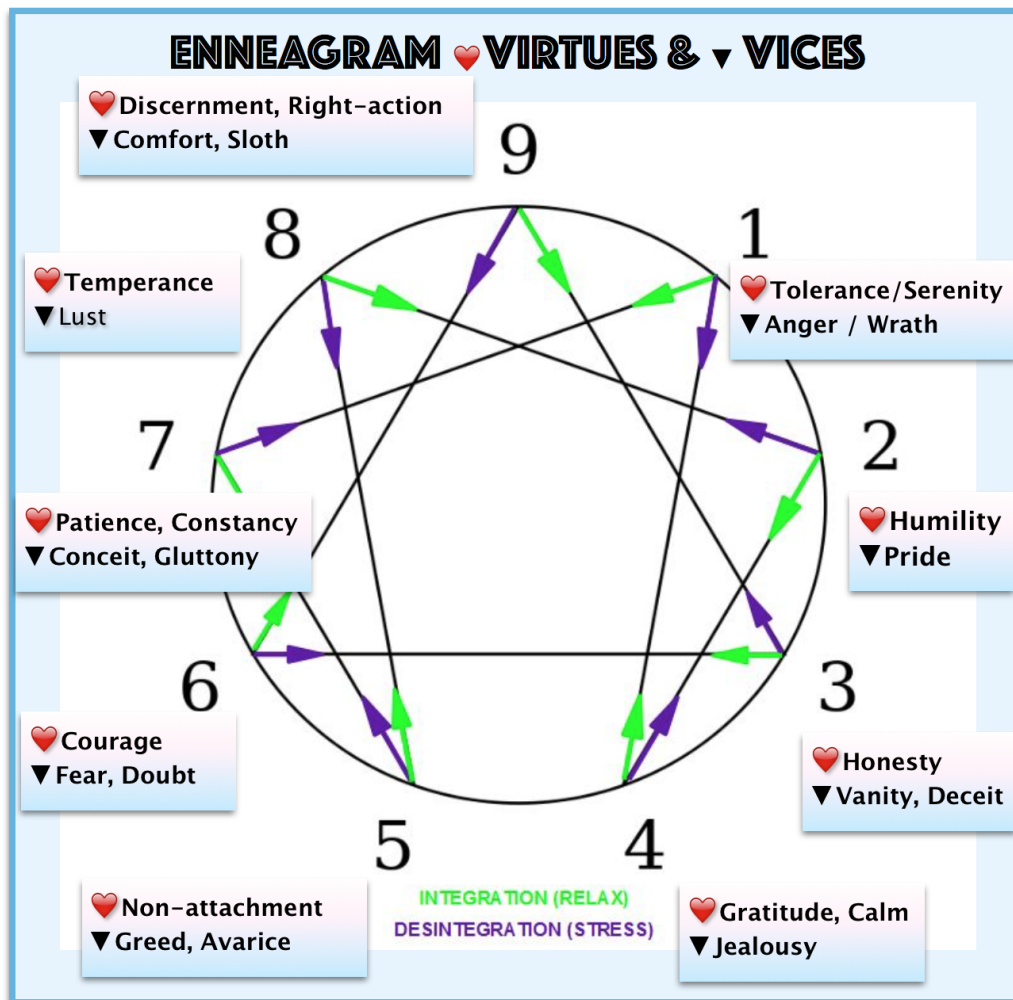
**QUESTION: What have you learned about yourself working with the Enneagram?**

**QUESTION: How has it impacted your spiritual life?**

Another way that people have used this tool is to help us understand the vice and the virtue of each type. I did a series of sermons on the **Seven Deadly Sins** a number of years ago and in those sermons, I reminded us that each sin has a correlating virtue. They each actually start out as good things but they become broken places in us when we become upset by them.

**QUESTION: As you look at this idea of the virtue being right-action for a 9 with comfort being a vice, how does that strike you?**

**GRAPHIC Enneagram with Vices and Virtues – Stress and Relax**



**QUESTION:** What does it look like for you to move towards a 3 when you relax and towards a 6 when you are stressed?

**GRAPHIC** Type 8 Put to Death - Bring to Life

## TYPE 9 THE PEACEFUL MEDIATOR

PUT TO DEATH  
BRING TO LIFE

**Put to Death** your Core Weakness of sloth, which leads you to suppress your passions, abilities and worth in order to avoid conflict. Christ is calling you to bless the world with your unique purpose and perspective.

**Bring to Life** your heart's Core Longing to know that your presence matters. You can awaken and voice your views, opinions and desires, confidently knowing you are Christ's beloved child!

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**QUESTION: Does any of that ring true for you in the diagram above?**

**QUESTION: Which spiritual practice have you found most helpful and why?  
(Taken from the Enneagram Spiritual Formation page...**

**<https://saturatetheworld.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/Enneagram-Spiritual-Formation-Plan.pdf>**

- i. Downstream practices that seem to come easier.**
  - 1. Nature Walks.**
  - 2. Peacemaking and Justice.**

ii. Upstream practices which can be more challenging.

1. Fixed-Hour Prayer
2. Bible-Reading Plan

**QUESTION:** What Bible characters speak to you?

1. Abram in Genesis 12...

**BIBLE**     <sup>1</sup>*The Lord had said to Abram, “Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father’s family, and go to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you and curse those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you.”*

<sup>4</sup>*So Abram departed as the Lord had instructed, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran.*

2. The man at the pool of Bethsaida in John 5.

**BIBLE**     <sup>1</sup>*Jesus returned to Jerusalem for one of the Jewish holy days. <sup>2</sup>Inside the city, near the Sheep Gate, was the pool of Bethesda, with five covered porches. <sup>3</sup>Crowds of sick people—blind, lame, or paralyzed—lay on the porches. <sup>5</sup>One of the men lying there had been sick for thirty-eight years. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus saw him and knew he had been ill for a long time, he asked him, “Would you like to get well?”*



***<sup>7</sup> “I can’t, sir,” the sick man said, “for I have no one to put me into the pool when the water bubbles up. Someone else always gets there ahead of me.”***

***<sup>8</sup> Jesus told him, “Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk!”***

***<sup>9</sup> Instantly, the man was healed! He rolled up his sleeping mat and began walking! But this miracle happened on the Sabbath, <sup>10</sup> so the Jewish leaders objected. They said to the man who was cured, “You can’t work on the Sabbath! The law doesn’t allow you to carry that sleeping mat!”***

***<sup>11</sup> But he replied, “The man who healed me told me, ‘Pick up your mat and walk.’”***

***<sup>12</sup> “Who said such a thing as that?” they demanded.***

***<sup>13</sup> The man didn’t know, for Jesus had disappeared into the crowd. <sup>14</sup> But afterward Jesus found him in the Temple and told him, “Now you are well; so stop sinning, or something even worse may happen to you.” <sup>15</sup> Then the man went and told the Jewish leaders that it was Jesus who had healed him.***

**QUESTION:** What encouragement would you give to others who feel they are in the type 8 category as powerful, inspiring people?

**QUESTION:** Is there anything else you would like to share?

Let me leave you with these scriptures that are so helpful for these difficult times and if you find yourself a type 9.

**BIBLE** ***<sup>4</sup> Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let***

***everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon.***

***<sup>6</sup> Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. <sup>7</sup> Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.***

***<sup>8</sup> And now, dear brothers and sisters, one final thing. Fix your thoughts on what is true, and honorable, and right, and pure, and lovely, and admirable. Think about things that are excellent and worthy of praise. <sup>9</sup> Keep putting into practice all you learned and received from me—everything you heard from me and saw me doing. Then the God of peace will be with you. – Philippians 4:4-9***

**BIBLE** ***<sup>14</sup> Then we will no longer be immature like children. We won't be tossed and blown about by every wind of new teaching. We will not be influenced when people try to trick us with lies so clever they sound like the truth.***

***<sup>15</sup> Instead, we will speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. –Ephesians 4:14-15***

That last line is a great Scripture to commit to memory.

**BIBLE** ***...speak the truth in love, growing in every way more and more like Christ, who is the head of his body, the church. –Ephesians 4:14b***

We ALL do need God's truth, grace and peace. Let's pray together...

**SLIDE     Prayer**

*Lord Jesus, our ultimate peace is found in you, not our circumstances. We have been justified by faith and have peace with God by calling you Lord and Savior. You have solved our deepest conflict with God and made us children of God in ways we can't ask for or imagine. God, you have quieted our deepest struggle with guilt by taking our brokenness and shame. We don't have to fear being good enough because we have you in our lives, and you promise peace that passes all understanding. Thank you for being the God of peace who is always with us. We can rest because, in Christ, we are known and loved by You. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.*