



### Theme: God wants to use your unique individuality to be a blessing to others!

The purpose of this series is to help us to better understand how God designed us, so that we will know what would be a good vocational fit for us and where we might be most effective in serving Him in the church. God created us for a purpose (Ps.139:13-14; Eph.2:10). He not only formed and shaped our bodies, but every area of our lives. We are a unique combination of numerous factors. We may summarize these factors in an acronym based on the word DESIGN:

**Desires + Experiences + Skills + Individuality + Gifts = Niche (your position)**

Today we're going to consider how God has custom-designed your unique individuality.

### Gathering Together »

Tell about a time when you felt that your personality style was stifled by those around you. What happened?

### Growing Together »

Read the following passages in discussing the 3 factors that can help us get along better with others.

1. Be AWARE of personality differences! See Genesis 25:27-28; Proverbs 19:11. How do we get offended by personality differences?
2. Why should we ACCEPT personality differences? See Romans 15:7; 14:13; Ephesians 4:32.
3. How can we begin to APPRECIATE personality differences? See 1 Corinthians 12:27; Rom 12:10.

### Getting Real with One Another »

Reference your "Personal Exercise on Individuality".

1. Describe how you *prefer* to:
  - (1) Be energized?
  - (2) Take in information (perceive)?
  - (3) Make decisions?
  - (4) Organize/order your world?
2. How do you tend to deal with people who have different personality type preferences than yours? Do you tend to see these differences as right or wrong? Does your acceptance of them depend on how much the same they are to your preferences?
3. Why do you think this statement is important? "*Your personal style may explain your behavior; it does not excuse it.*"
4. What kinds of personalities has God brought into your life in order to give you more balance?
5. From what you understand about your style, what ministry situations might best fit you and honor how God designed you? What ministries do other group members think would be a good fit for you?
6. Take time to go around to each group member in the room and affirm in each person a personality characteristic that has blessed the group.

### Group Prayer Time »

In addition to praying for the personal needs of group members, take time to pray that each person would come to understand his/her DESIGN and be willing to serve.