



*(based on a teaching by Rick Warren)*

## **Week 2: PLUGGING IN MY PERSONALITY**

### **“You are God’s Masterpiece”**

Having examined our Experiences last week, we now look at the letter P in SHAPE, which stands for Personality. Every person has a unique personality. Some of us are happier in crowds – others love to be alone. Some live in the present and smell the roses – others are always looking ahead. Some are more emotional and others are more logical. Some love to be organized and others prefer to be flexible. By God’s design, all these differences combine in different ways to make endless different unique personalities.

#### **Opening Discussion**

**10 minutes**

*Spend a few moments in silence, thinking about your personality.*

Ask yourself these questions:

- **Do you like crowds or prefer solitude?**
- **Do you live for today or do you look ahead to the future?**
- **Are you led by your head or by your heart?**
- **Are you organized or do you just let life unfold?**

Now talk about personality:

- How do you think a person’s personality affects the kind of things they do in church?
- Are some kinds of personalities more valuable than others? Why?

#### **Readings**

**10 minutes**

*Read the following verses aloud:*

Psalm 139: 13 – 18

Ephesians 2: 1 – 10

*Be silent in the group for a few moments, reflecting on the readings.*

**Discussion****20 minutes**

1. What does Psalm 139:13 – 18 say to you about God’s purpose for your life?
2. Psalm 139:13 speaks of God as creating “my inmost being” (NIV). The Hebrew word translated here is literally “the kidneys”, which in Hebrew thinking is symbolic of a person’s emotions and will, and the essence of a person’s personality (<https://bible.org>). This means God designed you to have a unique personality. How does this affect the way you view yourself? (see verse 14).
3. What does Ephesians 2: 1 – 2 say about what happens to us when we do not live according to God’s purpose for us?
4. What has God done for those who have turned to Christ? (Ephesians 2:4 – 7). Why has He done this?
5. “What does it mean for you, to be ‘God’s masterpiece’? (Ephesians 2:10) What good things do you think God has planned for you to do?

**Prayer****10 minutes**

*We are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.” (Ephesians 2:10).*

Break into two’s and pray for each other, as unique masterpieces of God.