

Five

THE INVESTIGATOR

FULL REPORT

As Christians, we desire to become more like Christ through the power of the gospel and the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Throughout this discipleship process, God calls us to a deeper knowledge of Him and of ourselves. The more we cooperate with God, the more we understand the greatness of God and the reality of our sin. As we apply the gospel to this new understanding, we grow closer to Christ and begin to resemble him more.

The Enneagram is an ancient personality map, a helpful guide on our journey toward self-knowledge. Based on nine archetypal styles, the Enneagram helps reveal a person's core motivations. Rather than confine us to a "type," the Enneagram simply helps us understand why we do what we do. Though our basic style will not change, circumstances and spiritual health will significantly affect how we express that style throughout our lives.

In addition to being a personality tool, the Enneagram works as a spiritual tool as well, exposing our tendencies toward sin and revealing a personal pathway to repentance. The Gospel Enneagram is designed to help us turn away from sinful motivations and self-defeating habits, turn toward Christ, and begin to live in line with our God-given gifts. As we cooperate with the work of God in our lives, we live out our individual style in a redemptive and world-changing way.

This report specifically addresses the spiritual development of a person whose style is Five: The Investigator.

Summary

As Investigators, Fives seek wisdom and knowledge to better understand why and how the world works. They want to understand how everything fits together. Through their observations, they are able to find ways to simplify life. They prefer to find truth for themselves rather than taking someone else's word for it.

Fives are contemplative, innovative and insightful. They have a voracious interest in acquiring data. They are rational and are able to remain calm in the midst of chaos. They are objective and help others to see things from a variety of perspectives.

Fives make great teachers because they enjoy sharing what they have learned. They are logical and stable. They are intensely focused and can spend a lot of time mastering a skill in their areas of interest. They easily lose track of time when they are in this mode. Fives are quite comfortable being alone and are typically private people.

These Investigators long to make sense of everything around them.

Motivation & False Belief

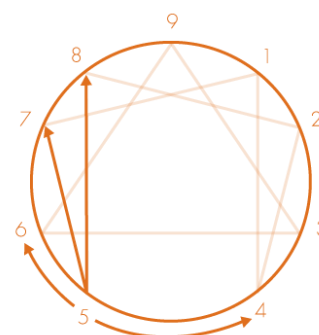
Fives are motivated by the desire to be capable and competent. They seek knowledge and find security in acquiring it. Since there is so much to learn and analyze in order to be competent, Fives feel the need to preserve their resources--including energy, time and knowledge. This motivation is driven by their fear of

being overwhelmed and intruded upon. While they greatly desire to be capable and competent, they have developed a false belief that they must withdraw and keep their resources to themselves.

Wings

Each person is unique. Thankfully, the Enneagram recognizes this and actually shows how each style carries “flavors” of the other styles.

On the diagram to the right, the lines on the outside of the Enneagram drawing (pointing from the Five to the Four and the Six) are called “Wings.” If you’ve taken our assessment, your wing is the number in which you received a higher score.



A Five with a Four Wing is often called “The Iconoclast.” Having Iconoclast tendencies means that you are probably creative and imaginative. You are sensitive, independent and introspective. You prefer to find an area of interest that others haven’t researched as thoroughly.

On the other hand, a Five with a Six Wing is often called “The Problem Solver.” Having Problem Solver tendencies means that you are probably extroverted, loyal and persistent. You are more organized and detailed in your observations. You are interested in technical areas such as science, technology and engineering. You are practical and enjoy finding solutions to overcome challenges.

Stress and Security

The lines on the inside of the Enneagram drawing (pointing from the Five to the Seven and the Eight) are called “Arrows.” They reflect how a person operates in times of stress or security.

Generally, Fives gain a few characteristics of Sevens under stress. They can become agitated, unfocused and impulsive. They may have difficulty feeling satisfied and search for something to fill the perceived void. But when Fives operate healthily, they will be giving of themselves, enjoy connecting with others and will have joy.

In a more secure or relaxed setting when Investigators feel comfortable expressing their innermost thoughts and feelings, they gain a few characteristics of Eights. They become more aware of themselves and their feelings. They become more self-confident and assertive and will often assume leadership roles and engage more deeply with others. However, if Fives are not living as healthily, they may become angry, verbally critical and will not be respectful of others’ boundaries.

Childhood

As children, Fives may not have felt safe or were overwhelmed within their family. Fives may have experienced a lot of disruption or turmoil and they may have withdrawn into their own “world” when they felt anxious or unsafe. They may have retreated to a specific space or room which may have been filled with their favorite things such as books, collections or toys. Because they didn’t want to add to the burden of their needs to an already tumultuous environment, they retreated. As adults, they long to be able to express their needs and to know that they aren’t a burden.

At Work & In Relationships

Fives are able to collect and analyze information, have great insight and are objective workers especially when they are operating from within their identity in Christ. At their best, high-functioning Fives are practical, contemplative, independent and do not need a lot of affirmation. They are self-sufficient, require little supervision, and are generous to others. They are willing to engage and are excited to share their personal insight. When they feel comfortable in their surroundings, they are witty and fun.

Fives can misuse these characteristics, becoming overwhelmed and exhausted. In order to cope, they may separate themselves from their emotions and function only on an intellectual level. Fives may cause delays in projects because they spend so much time researching and collecting data. They can become very anxious when they feel they do not have enough time or energy to complete a project. They may have difficulty working with others because they prefer to work alone. Fives can be confrontational, challenging others when they believe all of the implications, data and information are not being considered.

Fives need to accept that their desire for knowledge and making sense of everything is not as important as the wisdom that comes through the gospel. When they do, Fives can be generous toward others by giving of themselves and their resources. They will also develop a deeper connection with themselves and others as a result.

Spiritual Health

Fives seek the wisdom and truth that only the gospel provides. When Fives are motivated to obtain wisdom by themselves, they operate in the flesh and often withdraw, becoming distant and exhausting their energy. But when Fives trust *Jesus* and rest in His wisdom, they develop community and are generous to others.

The following table shows your responses in the assessment. They are your characteristics when you are walking in the Spirit (gold box) and your characteristics when you are resorting to the flesh (gray box):

<p><u>Observant</u> I am acutely aware of my surroundings.</p>	<p><u>Withdrawn</u> I keep to myself in a group.</p>
<p><u>Analytical</u> I examine things to know what makes them work.</p>	<p><u>Overthinking</u> I like to think a long time before I take action.</p>
<p><u>Wise</u> I give sound advice.</p>	<p><u>Easily Depleted</u> I conserve my energy and time to make it through the day.</p>
<p><u>Objective</u> I make good decisions based on facts.</p>	<p><u>Isolated</u> I disengage even when people need me.</p>
<p><u>Insightful</u> I can see into the heart of the matter.</p>	<p><u>Distant</u> I retreat from people when I get lost in my head.</p>

Spiritually Healthy

Healthy Fives become completely engaged in their relationships and the world around them because they know that God provides all of their resources. They are able to be generous with their time and energy without fear of being drained. They are compassionate and have the ability to see multiple points of view. They are confident, perceptive and intuitive. They are visionary and become active, integrated observers. They use what they have learned in order to help others. They want to improve the world around them.

Knowledge of the gospel stirs up the need for community and connection as they put away the bad habits of isolation and withdrawal. They also become more aware of their own emotions, operating from emotion as well as intellect. They actively participate in life instead of standing on the periphery as an observer. They are witty, friendly and warm.

Healthy Fives are self-confident and move toward action. They communicate well, especially as it pertains to maintaining their own boundaries and respecting the boundaries of others.

Spiritually Average

Spiritually average Fives tend to focus their attention on mastering their skills in an effort to be more prepared. Average Fives will make sure they gather enough resources, knowledge and skills before they act. They can forget their own needs and get lost in their planning and thinking--even becoming resentful of interruptions or intrusions. They are more insecure and unsure of themselves. They are prone to envy others. Average Fives detach and begin to engage less and less with others.

Spiritually Unhealthy

Unhealthy Fives become eccentric and cut off all social connections with others. They feel empty inside and focus on little other than their basic needs. They feel incapable and incompetent. At this level of health, their thoughts may become profoundly grim and self-destructive.

Spiritual Growth

Gospel Meditation

While all doctrine is essential for Fives, many find comfort in spending time daily meditating upon the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. This doctrine is built upon the fact that at conversion, believers are sealed and indwelt with God's Spirit. Because we have God's presence within us, we have access to His truth (to counsel us), His guidance and His power (so that we may obey Him and advance Christ's mission).

Helpful scriptures to meditate on and memorize: John 14:25-26; 1 Cor. 3:16; Eph. 1:13-14.

You might find it helpful to practice the following "self-talk" to remind yourself of the implications of the gospel in your life:

- Only God grants me wisdom. I find truth in him alone.
- I am sinful. I am greedy with my time, energy and resources every day because I'm human.
- Jesus has taken the punishment for all my greed and offers me daily forgiveness.
- Because of Jesus, I am fully forgiven every day.
- I do not have to understand everything. Or expect others to understand everything.
- I am free to live, love and forgive by the grace of God.
- The world isn't safe but God is on the throne. He provides for me and protects me and invites me to work alongside Him by living generously.

Spiritual Disciplines

Fives benefit from selecting spiritual disciplines that will help them accept the love, peace and generosity of God. Based on your assessment, you may want to experiment with the following spiritual disciplines in order to keep yourself saturated with gifts of the gospel:

- Meditating on God's Word: Use God's Word to contemplate justification by faith. As you read the stories of real people in the Bible, look for how God uses everyday people--not because they're capable but simply because of His grace. You could benefit from a Bible reading plan that will help you internalize God's Word and share it with others. We highly recommend the Community Bible Reading Journal at www.theibrjournal.com.
- Prayer: Talk to God regularly in order to deepen your relationship with Him.

- Praise Him for his generosity toward you and all of humanity.
- Thank Him for revealing His wisdom and truths to you through the work of Jesus.
- Affirm your trust in Him, reminding yourself that He is able and desires to meet your needs.
- **Serving in the Church:** Find an outlet for your gifts in the Church. Look for areas that could use your insight, wisdom and compassion to help others grow in their understanding of God. Under the guidance of your church leadership, find innovative ways to serve community needs. If you do not have a church home, contact us at info@gospelenneagram.com and we will offer you some suggestions on how to find a good Gospel-centered church near you.
- **Generosity:** Look around you. Who needs something that you have to offer? How can you use your resources to help others? Remind yourself that we find true fulfillment in God and make his glory your goal. God is the provider of all needs and He wants you to engage your mind, heart and hands to serve and give generously to others.
- **Inductive Bible Study:** The process of observation, interpretation and application is well-suited for Fives and fits within their gifts. You may want to read “Living by the Book” Howard Hendricks and William Hendricks or “How to Study Your Bible: Discover the Life-Changing Approach to God's Word” by Kay Arthur, David Arthur and Pete De Lacy.
- **Intentional Relationships:** Make time to meet with others in order to build relationships. Focus on sharing information about your walk with God and how you are doing--not just what you know about God. You need to stop overthinking and begin to take notice of your feelings. This spiritual practice will help you more deeply connect to God and others. The truths of Christ are brought to light as people grow and encourage each other in relationship.

Next Steps

As you process what you’ve learned through your Gospel Enneagram assessment, consider taking the following next steps:

- **Make It Personal!** Begin by reading through your report with purpose. Grab a highlighter and mark any word or phrase that is especially true of you. This process will help you evaluate your results and “hone in” on the truths that are most applicable to your growth.
- **Schedule a Consult.** We can walk you through your Enneagram style and teach you an activity called “FUEL.” This activity helps you reflect on your beliefs and emotions in order to better understand yourself and God’s work in your life. So, instead of emotionally reacting to difficult circumstances or thoughts as you typically would, we teach you how to slow down, consider your Enneagram style and respond in a redemptive way. We show you how to ask God to uproot any false beliefs that are driving you in a negative direction. Most of all, this activity will help you know that God is on the throne and will help you understand what it looks like to love others well. If you’re interested, contact us at info@gospelenneagram.com.
- **Join or Host a Training Event!** We also teach the Gospel Enneagram through webinars, retreats and conferences. These training events are designed to help people find freedom from sin, unleash giftedness, develop empathy for others and grow more productive as they rest upon the power of the gospel. For more information, contact us at www.gospelenneagram.com.
- **Become a Certified Coach!** The Gospel Enneagram is an excellent tool to develop people in your workplace, church, parachurch ministry or simply so that you can care for your friends and family members. After you participate in our webinar we’ll give you more training to earn this certification. You can find out more at www.gospelenneagram.com.

Conclusion

The secret to spiritual health isn’t knowing your Enneagram style. Prioritizing and living daily in light of the good news of Jesus Christ is the essential ingredient for spiritual health. The Enneagram may help you

understand your pathway of growth, but the gospel is the power for change. Thankfully this means that a person's value, worth and identity are not found in their style nor their level of health; they are found in Jesus. When this happens, spiritual health results, and we begin to resemble Jesus more. We pray that the knowledge you gain about yourself and God results in a deeper love for Him and His people.