

Nine

THE PEACEMAKER

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 Nine: The Peacemaker.

Summary

As Peacemakers, Nines work to resolve conflict and bring balance to their environment. Nines bring calmness to situations and will work to help others feel welcome, accepted and at ease. Nines are non-judgmental, empathetic and easygoing.

Nines are gifted listeners and great mediators. They are able to see all viewpoints and bring about reconciliation. They are warm, adaptable and unassuming. Nines are easy to get along with because they desire connection with others.

With Nines, what you see is what you get--there is no hidden agenda. They are even-keeled and rarely experience extremes of emotion. Nines value peace, harmony and serenity.

These Peacemakers long for people to experience inner peace and unity.

Motivation & False Belief

Nines are motivated by the desire for peace. They seek peace of mind and inner stability in their life. They long to experience and express true peace, to be united with others and for all people to be in agreement. This motivation is driven by their fear of conflict, which causes them to focus on the needs and desires of others in order to keep others happy. By focusing on others, Nines lose sight of their own needs and desires. While they greatly desire true peace, they have developed a false belief that they must avoid all conflict.

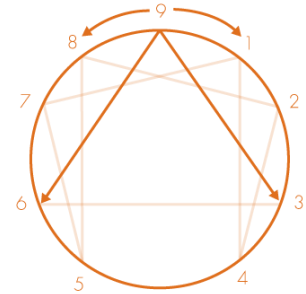
Wings

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 Nine to the Eight and the One) are called “Wings.” If you’ve taken our assessment, your wing is the number in which you received a higher score.

A Nine with a One Wing is often called “The Idealist.” Having Idealist tendencies means that you are probably more introverted and emotionally controlled. You can be precise, systematic, focused and controlled when you’re trying to ensure peace through creating a perfect environment.

On the other hand, a Nine with an Eight Wing is often called “The Dreamer.” Having Dreamer tendencies means that you are probably more outgoing and assertive. You may also find that you can become confrontational or appeasing depending on the other person, situation or environment. You also can be more rebellious against an authority if you feel there is any unfairness, which disrupts your desire for harmony.



Stress and Security

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

Generally, Nines gain a few characteristics of Sixes under stress. They can become anxious and worrisome, focusing on all the things that may go wrong before being able to take action. But when Nines operate healthily under stress, they are team players who are able to keep a level head and assist in resolving difficult challenges. They are strong, courageous and provide unwavering loyalty to others.

In a more secure or relaxed setting when Peacemakers feel comfortable expressing their innermost thoughts and feelings, they gain a few characteristics of Threes. They can become more assertive during a conflict. They can be focused and productive, achieving goals they have set for themselves. But at times when Nines feel disconnected or insignificant, they may try to impress others.

Childhood

As children, Nines may have grown up in an environment with strong personalities or conflict. Because of this, they may have retreated into themselves so that their presence would not add more tension to the situation. Within their family dynamics, Nines may have learned that it is not okay to assert themselves. As a result, it’s difficult for them to know their own desires, opinions and passions. Nines become so aware of others’ needs that they neglect their own, focusing on relational connection and a peaceful environment.

At Work & In Relationships

When they are operating from within their identity in Christ, Nines bring diplomacy and cohesiveness to the team. At their best, high-functioning Nines make great mediators, facilitators and team builders who excel at building consensus and being fair. They are kind, considerate and able to unselfishly support others. Nines prefer to build others up in order to succeed without asking for anything in return.

Nines can misuse these characteristics, often overcommitting due to poor boundaries and succumbing to anger under pressure. Nines may procrastinate and avoid making decisions when they are trying to please others, causing risk to projects and deadlines and resulting in conflict. This resulting conflict with co-workers will create even more stress for the Nine--spiraling into withdrawal, visible irritation, and passive-aggressive behavior.

Nines need to realize that conflict can be productive and an opportunity for growth. By realizing this, Nines will see that assertiveness and being able to express oneself is important in any relationship. As Nines grow in this area, they will find the peace they long for--not only with others but within themselves. Healthy Nines will contribute to the group through their understanding of each person's perspective, their ability to mediate conflict diplomatically, their acceptance of differences and their humble leadership.

Spiritual Health

Nines seek the perfect peace that only the gospel provides. When Nines are motivated to attain peace for themselves, they operate in the flesh and often feel anxious, overwhelmed and overlooked. But when Nines trust *Jesus* and rest in His peace, they can help improve the world with patience, empathy and calmness.

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>Peacemaker</u> I am able to help others reconcile their differences.</p>	<p><u>Avoids Conflict</u> When there is tension and disagreement, I shut down.</p>
<p><u>Harmonious</u> I like things to be in balance and work together in unity.</p>	<p><u>Passive</u> I do not fight for what I believe, even if it is best for me.</p>
<p><u>Easygoing</u> I am usually very calm. I am able to go with the flow.</p>	<p><u>Resigned</u> I tend to give in rather than fight a hopeless situation.</p>
<p><u>Unassuming</u> I am modest. I don't like to draw attention to myself.</p>	<p><u>Noncommittal</u> I cannot make decisions quickly. I need time to think it over.</p>
<p><u>Accepting</u> I am approachable to others. I welcome everyone and want them to feel like they belong.</p>	<p><u>Overly-Accommodating</u> I give in to others rather than express my opinion.</p>

Spiritually Healthy

Healthy Nines have found their voices and are able to be bold and assertive in expressing their needs and desires. They recognize that their presence matters to God and to others. Instead of focusing on attaining peace through their own strength and actions, healthy Nines fully know and trust that Christ gifted them with the ability to see others' viewpoints, mediate conflict and bring about true peace. They will live in the freedom to be who they were created to be, no longer merging with others to find their acceptance.

When they live as they were created to be, Nines will develop their gifts and talents. When they are forgiven and set free from guilt, healthy Nines reflect God's peace and comfort. Healthy Nines are patient,

steady, comforting and healing to others who are in conflict or pain. They have the ability to speak truth honestly and in a loving manner. Nines bring a sense of peace through their easy going manner. They intuitively know how to unite things.

Spiritually Average

Spiritually average Nines tend to forget who they are in Christ and begin to blend in by taking on the opinions, likes, dislikes and emotions of others. They place a higher value on others' worth than their own. Average Nines find it easier to advocate for others than it is to advocate for themselves. Instead of looking to God to find their worth, they will seek affirmation from others. They will need constant reassurance that they are valued and not overlooked.

Spiritually Unhealthy

Unhealthy Nines spend their energy pacifying and keeping others happy in order to have peace in their own life. This perceived peace comes at a great cost, as they will lose themselves by denying their own desires, opinions and needs. The more they try to make others happy, the more will be expected of them. Unhealthy Nines will allow a more assertive person to direct them because they have lost touch with their needs and may not trust themselves to make decisions.

Nines in this state need to realize true peace isn't dependent on others' view of them, but on the identity they have in Christ. They need the Holy Spirit to awaken them to their true value in Christ--as a cherished, loved and desired child.

Spiritual Growth

Gospel Meditation

While all doctrine is essential for Nines, many find comfort in meditating upon the doctrine of "Reconciliation." This doctrine is based on the fact that Christ's work moves believers from being alienated from God to being unified with God. Because of this, we are at peace with God and called to help reconcile others to God.

Helpful scriptures to meditate on and memorize: Romans 5:1, Ephesians 2:13-16 and 4:15.

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

- I can only find perfect peace in God.
- I am sinful. I fail everyday by being passive and neglecting my needs, emotions and the world.
- Jesus has taken the punishment for my passivity and neglect and offers me daily forgiveness.
- Because of Jesus, I am fully loved every day for who I have been created to be. In His acceptance I can freely express my opinions, needs and desires.
- I do not have to try to maintain peace at all cost or avoid conflict.
- I am free to live, love and forgive by the grace of God.
- I can be free to be bold and assertive because God is on the throne. He is working to make everything right and invites me to work alongside Him to reconcile others to Him and each other.

Spiritual Disciplines

Nines benefit from selecting spiritual disciplines that will help them accept the love, patience and grace 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 the peace of God that comes through reconciliation. As you do, remind yourself that only God is the source of lasting peace, granted to you through the work of Jesus.

- Bible Journaling: 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.thecbrjournal.com.
- Prayer: Talk to God regularly in order to deepen your relationship with Him.
 - Praise Him for His perfect peace and that through Jesus, you and all of humanity can be reconciled to Him.
 - Thank Him that through Him you are made valuable and significant.
 - Affirm your trust in Him, reminding yourself that you have peace through Him. You don’t need to shut down.
- Serving in the Church: Find an outlet for your gifts in the Church. Look for areas where you can bring healing and comfort to those in conflict and pain. Under the guidance of church leadership, create opportunities for others to connect and find God’s peace. 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.
- Peacemaking: There is conflict everywhere you turn, and you long to fix it. You feel part of God’s redemptive story when you are able to mediate, counsel and encourage others. Remind yourself that God is the source of absolute peace and make His glory your goal. God approves of you and is delighted when you step into the “fallenness” of the world around you and work alongside Him to bring reconciliation.
- Fixed Hour of Prayer: Consider the habit of praying at fixed times (morning, noon, and night) as they did in the early Church. Stopping at regular times throughout the day encourages consistency, faithfulness and requires your full participation, helping you enter into the peaceful presence of Jesus. It is a way of shutting out the chaos and helps you focus on your relationship with God.
- Time in Nature: Consider going walking, hiking or jogging at the beach or on a trail or going kayaking to restore a sense of calmness. When life becomes overwhelming with conflict, the outdoors offer rest and the assurance that God is the source of balance and order. Simply walking outdoors can help you take the focus off of yourself and connect with God, who loves you perfectly in Christ.

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.gospellenneagram.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.