

Cultivate Reflection Guide

A Series Called YOU: The Challenger [Enneagram Type 8] November 6 & 7, 2021

If you missed this weekend's messages, watch at cultivate.sc/discussion

The best way to know who YOU really are is to understand who God made you to be. The Enneagram is a self-discovery tool that can reveal both the beauty and the brokenness within each of us SO THAT we can invite God to help us heal, grow and cultivate the self-awareness, spiritual growth and healthy relationships He has created us for. Take the Enneagram assessment at sandalschurch.com/enneagram.

Use our Reflection Guide under the direction of your community group leader, to start a REAL conversation or for personal bible study as you cultivate God's word into your life. Choose the questions that challenge you to reflect and respond as you live out what we're learning. Keep in mind...*it's not about getting through the content, but getting the content through you!*

Read: [2 Samuel 11:26 - 12:1-10, 13 NLT](#)

Reflect & Respond: David's sin leads to God's displeasure and yet, God doesn't turn His back on David. Rather, God goes to great lengths, sending Nathan to challenge David, open his eyes and offer him forgiveness.

- As you reflect on this passage of scripture consider David's actions, God's response and Nathan's rebuke. What most stands out to you?
- It's easy to point out the sins of others while being blind to our own – but God won't be fooled. Invite God to search your heart. Is there any sin you're holding others accountable for while giving yourself a free pass?
- Be REAL with yourself, God or others about the consequences of these blind spots. This might begin with admitting your action is a sin, confessing it to God or inviting a "Nathan" to speak truth into your life.

Review: The Challenger – the Enneagram Type 8

Reflects	Motivation	Need	Avoids	Focus	Core Sin	Fear
God's power	Strength	Control	Vulnerability	Taking charge	Lust	Being exposed

- What can you learn from the Challenger's assertiveness, strength and confidence?
- How do you relate to the Challenger's reluctance to be vulnerable?
- The Challenger's desire for power can cause them to dominate others. But REAL relationships require a balance of tenderness, authenticity and depth. Are there any relationships in your life that could benefit from some housekeeping – an honest conversation, an offense forgiven, an apology offered? Pray and ask God how YOU need to step out with grace and mercy to care for that relationship.

Cultivate Community If you're a Challenger, invite a voice of refinement into your life by asking someone you trust to share how they experience you. Do they find you strong and confident or scary and combative? Listen with a teachable spirit and a heart to grow. If you know a Challenger, don't assume their directness is meant to be hurtful. Kindly stand up for yourself and be direct in expressing the best way to approach you.

Willing to Yield: If we want to follow Jesus – heart, soul, mind and strength – we begin by giving up control.

- Read [James 3:13-18 NLT](#)
- If we want to be wise and understand God's ways, how will we prove it? [v13]
- What robs us of wisdom? [v14-16]
- In contrast, what are the markers of REAL wisdom? [v17-18]
- Where in your life are you wrestling with control rather than yielding to wisdom? This could be a battle for too much control or with too little.
- What is a first step you could take to pursue vulnerability, authenticity or accountability SO THAT you can let go of being right and choose to do what is right in God's sight?