


# YOUR PERSONALITY AND THE EXPERIENCES THAT HAVE SHAPED YOU

Select Passages • June 3, 2007 • Pastor Mike Newman

May 13, 2007.....	"The Making of a Masterpiece"	
May 20, 2007.....	"Your Spiritual Gift(s)"	
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*For 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 (NLT)

## S.H.A.P.E.

- S—Spiritual Gifts
- H—Heart/Passion
- A—Abilities
- P—Personality
- E—Experiences

**A definition of personality:** Somebody's set of characteristics – the totality of somebody's attitudes, interests, behavioral patterns, emotional responses, social roles, and other individual traits that endure over long periods of time.

*Your personality impacts the way you think, feel, and act towards people and about situations that arise in your life.*

**Psalm 139:13-16 (NLT)** <sup>13</sup>You made all the delicate, inner parts of my body and knit me together in my mother's womb. <sup>14</sup>Thank you for making me so wonderfully complex! Your workmanship is marvelous—how well I know it. <sup>15</sup>You watched me as I was being formed in utter seclusion, as I was woven together in the dark of the womb. <sup>16</sup>You saw me before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded in your book. Every moment was laid out before a single day had passed.

### Recommended Reading for the Masterpiece Sermon Series

**Cure for the Common Life.** Max Lucado  
**S.H.A.P.E.,** Erik Rees  
*Both books are available in the Otterbein Bookstore located in the lobby of the church.*

### Five Observations About Personality:

1) While aspects of your personality are inherited and shaped by your training and experiences, you should still view your personality as something \_\_\_\_\_ by God.

- See Psalm 139:13-16

2) No personality is \_\_\_\_\_ than another from God's perspective.

#### Biblical Examples:

- Moses' personality was different than David's
- Mary and Martha had different personalities.
- Among the disciples, Andrew was a behind-the-scenes kind of guy. John was a people person, and Peter was a passionate and take charge kind of guy.



**Otterbein Church & Ministry Center**  
 801 Park Street • Waynesboro, Pennsylvania, 17268 • Rev. Michael Newman, Senior Pastor  
*Helping People Look Biblically at the Real Issues of Life!*

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**Romans 8:28 (NLT)** <sup>28</sup>And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

**Philippians 1:12 (NLT)** <sup>12</sup>And I want you to know, my dear brothers and sisters, that everything that has happened to me here has helped to spread the Good News.

**2 Corinthians 1:3-4 (NLT)** <sup>3</sup>All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is our merciful Father and the source of all comfort. <sup>4</sup>He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we will be able to give them the same comfort God has given us.

**Ephesians 2:10 (NLT)** <sup>10</sup>For 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.

### This Week...

- Complete the Personality and Experiences Discovery and Reflection Tool.
- Transfer the results of all the inventories and tools over to the SHAPE Profile included in the bulletin.
- Bring the SHAPE Profile to church with you next Sunday.

If you have missed any of the previous weeks or need additional inventories, you can download them at [www.otterbeinchurch.org](http://www.otterbeinchurch.org), find them in the lobby of the church at the Information Area, or call the church office and request them. Sermons are also available online or by contacting the church office at 717-762-7147 or [info@otterbeinchurch.org](mailto:info@otterbeinchurch.org).

3) You are responsible for \_\_\_\_\_ with your personality and you can never use it as an excuse for sinful behavior.

4) Understanding your personality is important because it helps you to better understand how you relate to \_\_\_\_\_ and how you respond to \_\_\_\_\_.

5) \_\_\_\_\_ and try to align your career and serving responsibilities with your God-given personality and SHAPE.

### Practical Suggestions:

- Ask others to help you honestly evaluate why you feel the way you do.
- Talk to your boss or supervisor and tell them how you feel.
- Find a better match if possible.
- Volunteer and serve in areas where you can utilize your personality and unique SHAPE.

### **Two Observations About Experiences:**

1) Our experiences in life play a major role in \_\_\_\_\_ who we are today.

- See Romans 8:28

### In most cases, our experiences (both good and painful) fall within the following categories:

- Spiritual Experiences
- Personal Experiences
- Relational Experiences
- School/Work-Related Experiences

*Here is the good news. God promises to use your experiences—both the good and painful experiences—to make you a better person.*

2) We should use our experiences to \_\_\_\_\_ and make a difference for God.

- See Philippians 1:12 and 2 Corinthians 1:3-4



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