Romans 12:16-18 (Amplified Bible) -- “Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty (snobbish, high-minded, exclusive), but readily adjust yourself to [people, things] and give yourselves to humble tasks. Never overestimate yourself or be wise in your own conceits. Repay no one evil for evil, but take thought for what is honest and proper and noble [aiming to be above reproach] in the sight of everyone. If possible, as far as it depends on you, live at peace with everyone.”

“You will not be able to redesign the basic personality with which your child was born. Some characteristics are genetically programmed, and they will always be there ... My advice to you is to accept, appreciate and cultivate the personality with which your ... child was born.”  - James Dobson

Proverbs 22:6 -- “Train up a child in the way he should go and when he is old he will not depart from it.”

Webster’s definition “bent” = an individual tendency, disposition or inclination

Sherilyn’s paraphrase of Proverbs 22:6 “Train up a child according to their natural bent, their individual tendencies and innate personality and when they are older, they will know who they are, why God made them and what purpose they have for living and loving the God who made them.”

DISC Personality Types
  - Domineering
  - Influencing
  - Steady
  - Conscientious

Tim LaHaye or Florence Littauer Personality Types
  - Choleric
  - Sanguine
  - Phlegmatic
  - Melancholy
**Myers-Briggs Personality Types**
- Introvert - Extrovert
- Sensing - Intuitive
- Thinking - Feeling
- Judging - Perceiving

**John Trent & Gary Smalley’s, “The Treasure Tree”**
- Lion
- Otter
- Golden Retriever
- Beaver

---

**Lion Personality**

Extrovert and ___________-focused

A Lion is also known as a choleric, a domineering “D” or a controlling/taking personality.

**Nickname:** ______________________

**Characteristics:**

- Takes charge naturally, born to be a leader
- Desires above all to be competent and get results
- **Daring**, unafraid of new situations
- Feels natural to them to **tell others what to do**
- Welcomes a challenge
- Firm and **serious about what is expected**
- Prefers things to be done the **RIGHT way**
- **Goal** oriented
- **Energized by people**
- **Makes decisions** quickly
- Typically need to **process through goal setting**
Tips for Balancing a Lion Personality:

- Seek God on how to temper your _______________ _____.
- Learn to make communication _______ - ____________.
- Practice being a better __________________. Understand you can come across as if you are trying to ________________ others.
- Although you are not naturally ________________, work at being sensitive towards others and their feelings.
- Realize that life is not always ______________ and ______________.
- Recognize your high need to feel ____ ________________ but work at not being too ________________.
- Seek opportunities to let others make the ________________ .
- Humble yourself often before ____________.

“... the righteous are as bold as a lion.” Proverbs 28:1

Parenting a Lion

- You will need the power of the Holy Spirit to temper their strong-will without breaking their spirit.
- Recognize they were born a leader by _________________.
- Teach them to listen before they talk sometimes; don’t allow them to ________________ others or situations!
- Understand that they don’t mean to ___ __________ or hurt the feelings of other people.
- Make your ________________clear and explain “why”.
- Accept that they are not naturally compassionate by nature; encourage them to consider __________ more important than __________ but don’t force it on them.
- Let them make some of their own ___________; it makes them feel valuable and significant.

Life View: ____________!

Affirm your Lion:
Otter Personality

Extrovert and ___________ -focused

An Otter is also known as a sanguine, an influencing “I”, or a supporting/giving personality.

Nickname: ____________________

Characteristics:

- **Life of the party**, without effort
- Desires above all to be liked by ALL
- **Flexible** and very aware of others, loves a crowd
- Feels natural to perform
- **Optimistic**, sees the good in everything/everyone
- **Talks A LOT**, often exaggerating the facts
- Prefers things to be FUN
- **People** oriented
- **Energized by people**
- **Impulsive** decision maker
- Typically, need to process by talking

Tips for Balancing an Otter personality:

- Recognize your difficulty in _______________ tasks, work toward completion.
- Realize your desire and need for variety and ________________.
- Don’t take on more than you can handle, learn to say _____.
- Learn to be more intentional about being ____  ____________.
- Seek out strategies for getting _________________.
- Recognize your need to stay consistent in reading / studying the Word of God so you can live by ____________, not be controlled by circumstances and thus, by your emotions.
- Seek out friends who enjoy _____________ and having a good time!
- Take time to think about a _________________, even buying something small.

“A cheerful heart is good medicine!” Proverbs 17:22
Parenting an Otter

You will need the power of the Holy Spirit to temper their emotions without smothering their enthusiastic approach to life.

- Encourage and require them to ______________ things that they start.

- Accept their sheer joy in ______________ and making others happy, most often it is not prideful.

- Help them to not commit or offer to do more than they can ______________ get done.

- Teach them the importance of being _____ _________ but don’t expect them to be. 😊

- __________! __________! __________! They crave verbal affirmation.

- Understand they tend to be highly circumstantial, controlled by their circumstances and _________________.

Life View: __________!

Affirm your Otter:
Golden Retriever Personality

Introvert and ___________ -focused

A Golden Retriever is also known as a phlegmatic, a steady “S” or an adapting/dealing personality.

Nickname: ____________________

Characteristics:

- Very stable and predictable
- Desires above all to move slowly and be sure of things
- Systematic, level-headed and tenacious
- Feels natural to help others and be empathetic toward them
- Loyal / faithful to family and friends
- Listens carefully to others
- Prefers things to be peaceful, doesn’t like anyone to argue
- Peace oriented (Everybody stay calm!)
- Drained by people
- Procrastinates in decision making
- Typically, needs to process by thinking it through alone

Tips for Balancing a Golden Retriever Personality:

- Recognize your NEED for direct motivation, learn to set ____________.
- Put forth effort for being more ___________________!
- Assert yourself in making ________________ and stick to your decision.
- Don’t get in the habit of ignoring your feelings; speak ____________ to others in a kind way.
- Purposely take on new ________________, preferably with someone who can and will help you.
- Intentionally offer to be ________________ for things.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to help you ________________ for ____________!
- Recognize your innate resistance to ________________ and make yourself try something ___________ and uncomfortable once in awhile.

“Blessed is the one who is kind to the needy.” -- Proverbs 14:21
Parenting a Golden Retriever

- You will need the power of the Holy Spirit to temper their resistance to change without scaring them.
- Recognize their tendency to be ___________ because they are so easy going.
- Don’t expect _____________________ from them.
- Require them to make some of their own _________; but too many __________________ in a short period of time will be overwhelming.
- Be cautious that they don’t get __________________ for everything; they can easily become the family scapegoat.
- Help them to express themselves to others, tell them what to __________.
- Encourage but don’t force them to take on ____________.

**Life View:** __________! 

**Affirm your Golden Retriever:**
Beaver Personality

Introvert and _________-focused

A Beaver is also known as a melancholy, a conscientious “C” or a conserving/holding personality.

Nickname: __________________

Characteristics:

- **Dedicated** and conscientious
- Desires above all to be **helpful** and **prove their worth**
- **Pursues excellence** naturally
- Typically **neat** and tidy, noticing every **detail**
- Innate ability to **stick to a job** to its completion
- High need to **ask a lots of questions**
- Prefers things to be done as they always have been, **resists change**
- Detail oriented
- **Drained by people**
- **Agonizes over decisions**, wants it to be the right one
- Typically, need to **process by asking questions** and then making lists

Tips for Balancing a Beaver Personality:

- Understand that you are highly sensitive and hurt easily, purpose to not take everything ________________.
- Work at not having a ________________ outlook and attitude.
- Learn to deal with disappointment and failure by not expecting ________________ out of yourself, others or circumstances.
- Change your _______ _________; learn to say what is ___________, not what YOU think or feel.
- Although you are ________________ by nature, learn good conversation and ____________ skills.
- Intentionally be ________________ once in awhile.
- Make yourself try ___________ things and go into ____________ situations.
- Allow yourself ____________ ____________ to accomplish things.

“All hard work brings a profit ...” Proverbs 14:23
**Parenting a Beaver**

You will need the power of the Holy Spirit to temper their moods without discouraging them.

- Understand that they are highly ________________ and get their feelings hurt very easily.

- Encourage them to see the “bright side” as they are typically programmed with a ________________ outlook.

- Help them learn to handle disappointment and ________________ without letting it affect them in a profound way.

- Give them ________________ to do things, rushing them frustrates them and makes them feel insecure.

- Accept that they often have a *need* for ________________, provide it for them.

- Try to keep a reasonable family schedule; they crave the security of a ________________.

**Life View:** ________________!

**Affirm your Beaver:**
### Lion – Extrovert – Task Focused

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extrovert</td>
<td>Makes decisions quickly</td>
<td>Talks too much; interrupts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Able to accomplish much</td>
<td>Naturally takes charge</td>
<td>Over Reacts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loves a challenge</td>
<td>Self-disciplined</td>
<td>Bossy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daring and Brave</td>
<td>Good leader</td>
<td>Rebellious – always wants to do things their way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Many friends, doesn’t need a best friend</td>
<td>Gets the job done</td>
<td>Doesn’t always think about the feelings of others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong-willed</td>
<td>Accomplishes Goals</td>
<td>Competitive, Poor Loser</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Beaver – Introvert – Task-Focused

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introvert</td>
<td>Sticks to the job</td>
<td>Misses out on fun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Task focused</td>
<td>Good at performing but nervous</td>
<td>Very critical of self and others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedicated/conscientious</td>
<td>Self-conscious</td>
<td>Slow – has to do things the right way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wants to be helpful</td>
<td>Organized, neat and tidy</td>
<td>Unsure of self, insecure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doesn’t like to be in charge</td>
<td>Very creative</td>
<td>Can be moody</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One Best Friend</td>
<td>Pays attention to details</td>
<td>Selfish</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Otter – Extrovert – People Focused

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extrovert</td>
<td>Flexible</td>
<td>Impulsive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life of the Party</td>
<td>Happy 99% of the Time</td>
<td>Interrupts Others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loves to Perform</td>
<td>Has A lot of Energy</td>
<td>Lacks Self-discipline</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Talks A lot</td>
<td>Can Perform without Nervousness</td>
<td>Doesn’t Always Complete a Task</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loves People</td>
<td>Fun to be Around</td>
<td>Typically Very Late</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Many Friends!</td>
<td>Makes Others Comfortable</td>
<td>Emotional Reactions</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Golden Retriever – Introvert – People Focused

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Strengths</th>
<th>Weaknesses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Introvert</td>
<td>Good listener</td>
<td>Doesn’t want to start or finish things</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moves/Processes slowly</td>
<td>Very loyal</td>
<td>Procrastinates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loves to let others do the talking</td>
<td>Happy most of the time</td>
<td>Can be irresponsible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Likes others to make decisions</td>
<td>Very cooperative</td>
<td>Doesn’t always see the importance of standing up for what’s right</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Easy to be around</td>
<td>Kind-hearted</td>
<td>Late</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peaceful</td>
<td>A Good Friend</td>
<td>Tends to be Lazy</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Personality Test

Personality assessments can help you understand your basic personality type. Many such tests are available. Here’s a very simple one adapted from *The Two Sides of Love*, by Gary Smalley and John Trent. Using the four lists of words and phrases in the boxes below, circle the words in each list that describe you *most of the time*.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type 1</th>
<th>Type 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Takes charge</td>
<td>Takes risks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Determined</td>
<td>Visionary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assertive</td>
<td>Motivator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Firm</td>
<td>Energetic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enterprising</td>
<td>Very verbal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Competitive</td>
<td>Promoter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enjoys challenges</td>
<td>Avoids details</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Adventurous</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type 3</th>
<th>Type 4</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Loyal</td>
<td>Deliberate</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-demanding</td>
<td>Controlled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Even keel</td>
<td>Reserved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Avoids conflict</td>
<td>Predictable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Enjoys Routine</td>
<td>Practical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dislikes change</td>
<td>Orderly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deep relationships</td>
<td>Factual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Good listener</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In which box did you circle the *most words*? _______  
Although most people are a combination of two personality types, the box with the most words circled indicates your dominant type.