

59 March 5, 2022, Self-Analysis

Self-analysis can also be thought of as **Self-Assessment** or even **Self-Critique**. This process should begin at our age of critical thinking and proceed in an orderly fashion through the rest of our lives. But for most of us we proceed with life facing many failures while the more fortunate individuals by persistence push through to some degree of success. We fail to analyze our failures or missteps to force us to alter our course of action. Many do not even have goals or dreams to reach for. The saddest part of this process is that many people fail to let God into their lives and rely on Him for guidance. It is said that the fastest growing denomination of people is the **Ignorant**. What is good in our lives is being **Zealous** for Jesus. Humans are defined not by their limitations, but by the intentions God has for them; not by what they seem to be, but by everything it means to be created in His image.

So, **Self-Analysis** is an analysis of oneself, in particular as to ones motives and character. It forces a person to think critically and honestly about themselves and their purpose, work, and lifestyle. It forces them to present an argument, or claim about what they are saying or thinking to be their truth about themselves. The problem of mismanagement of oneself becomes magnified when responsible for not only themselves but families or business associates. In reading any Book of the New Testament of the Bible in particular it is easy to pick out characteristics that do or should define our targets for self-improvement and success. This list of characteristics of each of us surely is not complete, nor in order of importance, but a good look at oneself – sometimes it is helpful to grade oneself on each characteristic from one (bad) to ten (great) to understand oneself better:

Personality - the combination of characteristics or qualities that form an individual's distinctive temperament, basically one of four personalities:

- 1) **Choleric-extroverted**, ambitious, goal oriented, determined, unemotional, focused, strong, stubborn will, analytical, individualistic.
- 2) **Melancholic-introverted**, meticulous, deep thinker, analytical, detailed, thorough, organized, planner, traditionalist, contributor.
- 3) **Sanguine-social**, talkative, active, happy, outgoing, lively, optimistic, buoyant, carefree, adventurous, high risk, romantic, bore easily.
- 4) **Phlegmatic-easygoing**, quiet, sympathetic, passive, peacemaker, harmonious, loyal, close relationships, avoid conflict, mediator.

Self-esteem - confidence in one's own worth or abilities; self-respect (**high versus low**).

Self-will - obstinately doing what I want in spite of the wishes or orders of others (God)²

Responsibility - the fact of having a duty to deal with something or of having control over someone, weigh **justice versus injustice**²

Respect - a feeling of deep admiration for someone or something elicited by ability, quality, or achievement.

Independence - the fact or state of being **independent** or **dependent** on others²

Pride - deep satisfaction with personal achievements, or those with whom closely associated, or from qualities or possessions that are widely admired.

Egocentric - limited in outlook or concern to one's own activities or needs, **self-centered** or selfish.

Greed - intense and **selfish** desire for something, especially wealth, power, or food.

Ethical – morality of principles, standards of behavior that society accepts.

Jealousy - feeling of unhappiness caused by **wanting** what someone else has.

Stubborn - dogged **determination** not to change attitude or position on something, especially in spite of good arguments or reasons to do so.

Honesty - quality or fact of being honest, uprightness and **fairness with truthfulness**, sincerity, or frankness and freedom from deceit or fraud.

Humble - modest or low view of one's own **importance**; God is opposed to the proud but gives grace to the humble (I Peter 5:5)

Kindhearted - having a kind and sympathetic nature, friendly or generous nature.

Patient - able to accept or **tolerate** delays, problems, or suffering without becoming annoyed or anxious.

Persistent - continuing firmly or **obstinately** in a course of action in spite of difficulty or opposition.

Honorable - believes in truth and doing the **right** thing, respected.

Understanding - sympathetically aware of other people's feelings; **tolerant** and forgiving, mental grasp with comprehension.

Submissive - ready to **conform** to the authority or will of others, meekly obedient or passive, obey someone without arguing.

Gentleness - quality of being kind, **tender**, or mild-mannered, showing care and respect for others by action and speech.

Ignorance - lack of **knowledge** education, awareness, information

Hospitable - **friendly** and welcoming to strangers or guests.

Giving – voluntarily without expecting any compensation providing love or other emotional support, **caring** (versus taking),

Listening – giving attention to **sound** for understanding and communication (types – deep, full, critical, therapeutic).

Loving - intense feeling of deep affection, **caring and giving** to another, priority to the interest and well-being to another.

Obedient - complying or willing to comply with orders or requests; **submissive** to another's will.

Gossipier - habitually reveals personal or sensational facts about others.

Provider – **gives** another what they need, God-given desire to help others.

God is there to help us overcome deficiencies in our character, and importantly provide a method of redemption for improvement as He is the only perfect person but we can strive to be more like Him by following the principals of His Word.