

Growing Gods Garden

Getting connected with our Family

NATURE

- Heredity
- Genetic predisposition/animal instinct
- Inborn abilities and traits

NURTURE

- Environment
- Taught to do
- Moulds genetic tendencies

Temperament . . .

*innate tendency to develop in a certain way -
it is deep seated and constant.*

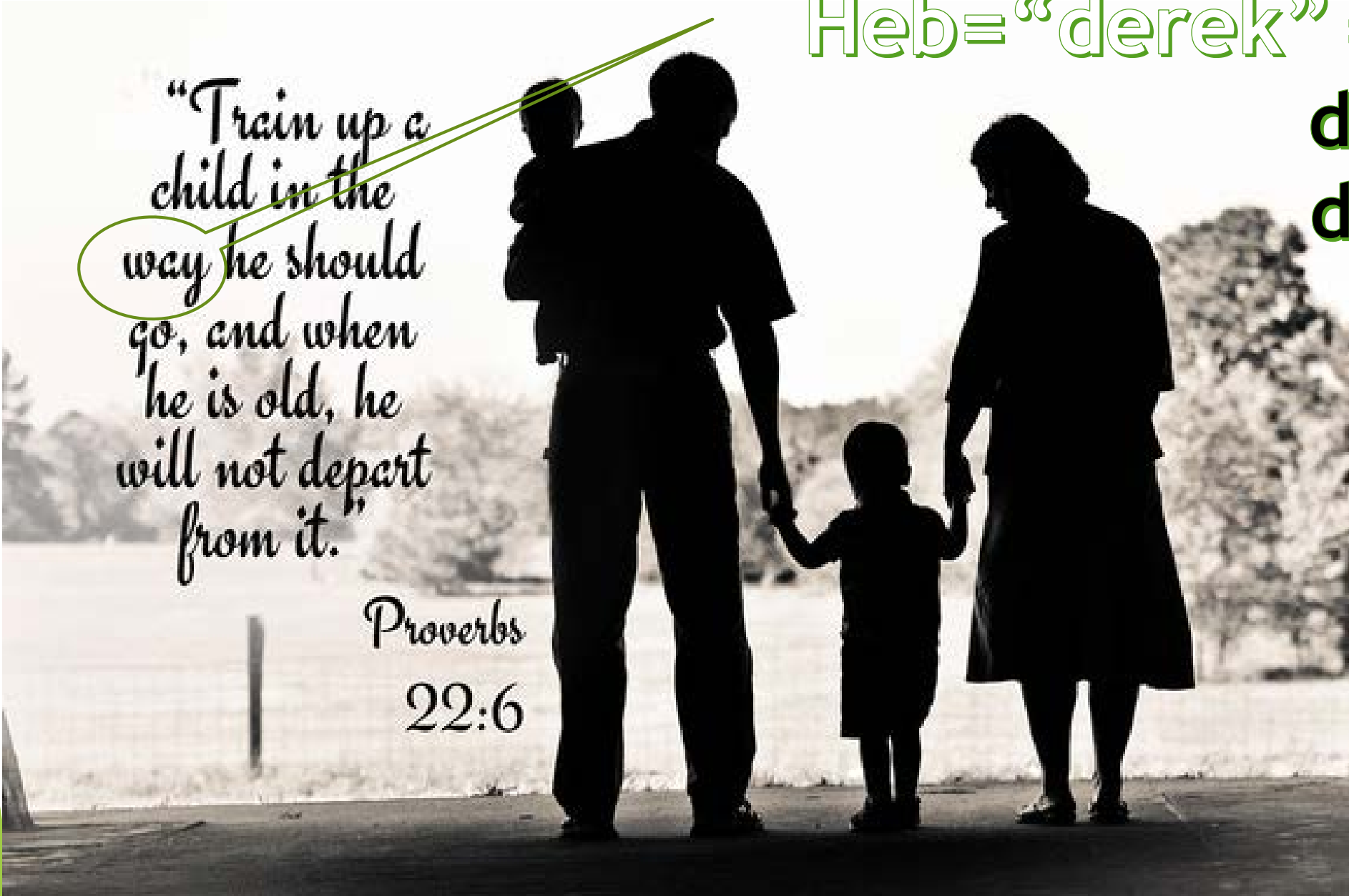
- ☺ Do you focus on people or tasks ...
- ☺ Are you an introvert or extrovert
- ☺ A pessimist or optimist ...
- ☺ Thinker or talker
- ☺ Spectator or participant ...
- ☺ Leader or follower ...
- ☺ Individual or team player ...
- ☺ Agent of change or defender of the status quo ...
- ☺ Fighter or peacemaker ...

Biblical foundation for temperament

Heb="derek" = inner design or direction

"Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it."

*Proverbs
22:6*



Do you recognize these people?



The Know-It-Alls

They are arrogant and usually have an opinion on every issue. When they are wrong they get defensive.



The Passives

These people never offer ideas or let you know where they stand



The Dictators

They bully & intimidate. Constantly demanding & brutally critical



The "Yes" People

They agree to any commitment, yet rarely deliver. You can't trust them to follow through



The "No" People

Quick to point out why something won't work. What's worse is they're inflexible



The Gripers

Is anything ever right with them? They prefer complaining to finding solutions

God's various expressions of power are in action everywhere; but God himself is behind it all. Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits. All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people!

The variety is wonderful:

wise counsel

clear understanding

simple trust

healing the sick

miraculous acts

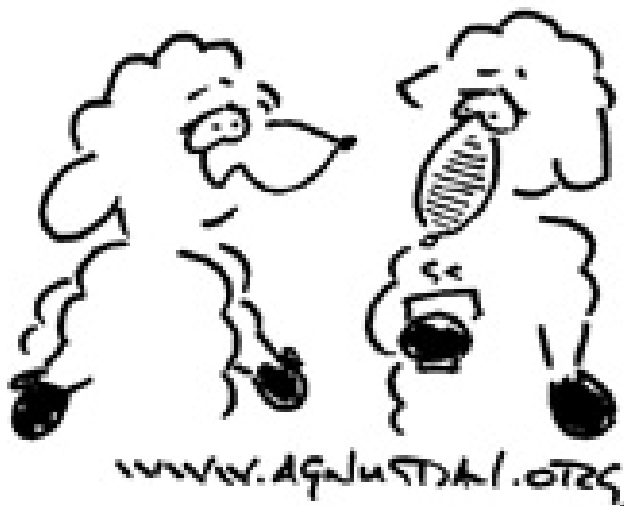
proclamation

distinguishing between spirits

tongues

Your body has many parts – limbs, organs, cells – but no matter how many parts you can name, you're still one body.

I THINK THIS WHOLE "BODY PARTS" IDEA IS COOL.



YEAH – EVERYONE PLAYS A PART & EVERY PART IS NECESSARY.



EXCEPT FOR THE APPENDIX.

I WONDER WHO'S THE APPENDIX?



It's exactly the same with Christ.

God has carefully
placed each part of the body
right where he wanted it.
No matter how significant you are,
it is only because of

what
you are
a *part* of.





Growing Gods Garden



▶ Palm Tree



▶ Rose Bush



▶ Lollipop tree



▶ Pine Tree



Life ... Growth ...
Potential ... Beauty



Palm Tree

Flighty

Talkative

Cheery

Great at Planning

Forgiving

Usually loud

Sense of humour

Forgetful

Social

Innovative

Loving

Fun loving

Keep childlikeness

Live for the moment

Life ... Growth ...

Potential ... Beauty



Rose Bush

Strong

Organized

Sees the Bright side

Wants to do it alone

Easy to Anger

Productive

Can be insensitive

Loving

Leadership

Demanding

Aggressive

Unforgiving

Active & involved

Go Getter

Life ... Growth ...

Potential ... Beauty



Lollipop Tree

Empathetic

Devoted

Self Loathing

Can't deal with criticism

Emotionally demanding

Can hold a Grudge

High standards

Loving

Sympathetic

Few Friends

Fearful

Caring

Self discipline

Neat

Life ... Growth ...

Potential ... Beauty



PineTree

Appears Lazy

Stubborn

Don't like new experiences

Loving

Methodical

Attached to family

Like own company

Likes to Eat

Likes Comfort

Peacemaker

Steadfast

Calm

Avoid conflict

Loyal

Life ... Growth ...

Potential ... Beauty

Personal application ...

1. Can you add additional character traits to the list ?
2. Look at the Biblical examples and how they served the church and community
3. How best can I serve the ecclesia with my personality type?



This is my prayer: that your love will flourish and that you will not only love much but well.

Learn to love appropriately.

You need to use your head and test your feelings so that your love is sincere and intelligent, not sentimental gush.





Growing kids with character

Link to purchase the original book or ebook on Amazon

<https://www.amazon.com/Growing-Kids-Character-Hettie-Brittz>

A real gem of Bible study on the book's website that goes further into application

<https://www.evergreenparenting.co.za>

The tree type Profile for Adults

Mark each trait that features strongly in your personality.

Try not to mark the things you would like to be, but who you really are and the things other people see in you.

Rather mark fewer characteristics and only those you are very certain about.

Type 1		Type 2	
Is enthusiastic, able to inspire others		Is self-driven	
Welcomes change and surprises		Prefers leading to following	
Lives for the moment, forgets the past		Thrives on responsibility	
Hates routine - easily bored		Is focused with a sense of direction	
Easily makes new friends		Stays determined throughout a task	
Expresses love passionately		Makes quick, instinctive decisions	
Needs social interaction often		Is self-assured and confident	
Follows impulses rather than thoughts		Doesn't take "no" for an answer	
Sees the silver lining		Speaks freely and honestly	
Believes the best about people		Has strong willpower - is a fighter	
Is a convincing "Saleswoman"		Enjoys tough competition	
Tries not to take life too seriously		Is comfortable with conflict	
Can be undisciplined and indulgent		Can be hot-tempered	
Gets melodramatic when upset		Is a poor loser	
Enjoys attention and affection		Confronts weak authority figures	
<i>Total</i>		<i>Total</i>	

Type 3		Type 4	
Strives for perfection and excellence		Is a patient listener	
Likes things done a certain way		Is a good people-reader	
Is eager to learn, understand and teach		Is stable, consistent and predictable	
Gets upset about mistakes		Supports others selflessly	
Needs advance notice		Puts off hard work till the last minute	
Gets nervous under pressure		Is a considerate team player	
Goes the extra mile with work		Is gently affectionate	
Is introspective; given to self-examination		Prefers a small circle of friends	
Is a meticulous planner		Stays loyal to people	
Learns from the past and improves self		Is calm and quiet	
Identifies mistakes and pitfalls		Defend the peace	
Takes rules and regulations seriously		Is content with self and life	
Assumes responsibility for others' problems		Is slow to make new friends	
Becomes negative or overwhelmed		Withdraws when angry	
Enjoys having control over details		Is a spectator rather than a participant	
	<i>Total</i>		<i>Total</i>

SUMMARY

Type of tree

type 1 total		
type 2 total		
type 3 total		
type 4 total		

I am a _____ tree !



The Palm Tree

The Rose Bush



Biblical examples ... *David, Peter, Aaron, Joseph, King Hezekiah, Barnabas.*

- ** Are passionate & Demonstrative (1 Samuel 20:41; 2 Samuel 6:14)
- ** Are colourful communicators (1 Sam 17:45-47; Acts 2:14-36)
- ** Act as a mouthpiece for a group (Matthew 15:15; 16:15-16; Luke 12:41)
- ** Remain optimistic (1 Sam 17:32)
- ** Are risk takers and adventurous (1 Sam 17:34-37; Matt 14:28-30; Acts 4:19-20)
- ** quickly win other people's favour (1 Sam 16:21; 18:1-5,16)
- ** inspire others and are often leaders (1 Sam 22:1-2; Luke 22:32; Acts 2:37,41)
- ** Are jovial and generous (1 Sam 30:23-26; 2 Sam 6:13,19)
- ** Act and speak on impulse (1 Sam 17:32; 1 Sam 25:21-22; Matt 26:33-35; John 21:7)
- ** Are curious (Luke 24:12; John 21:20-22)
- ** Are Emotional (1 Sam 20:41; 2 Sam 3:32; Matt 26:75)
- ** Don't think about the consequences of their selfish actions (2 Sam 3:14-16; 2 Sam 11:26)
- ** Can tell tall tales & manipulate to stay out of trouble (1 Sam 21:1-9; 2 Sam 11:5-15)
- ** Have poor self control regarding carnal temptations (2 Sam 11:1-4 ; Mark 14:37-38)
- ** Let go of principles when it suits them (Matt 26:69-75; 2 Sam 13:21)

Biblical examples ... *Nehemiah, Paul, Isaiah, Ezekiel, Zechariah, John the Baptist.*

- ** Put their heart & soul into everything they undertake (Neh 5:16; Acts 9:1-2; Romans 1:9)
- ** Don't consult others until they have figured out a plan of action (Neh 2:11-16; Gal 1:15-19)
- ** Usually occupy a responsible position (Neh 1:11b; Acts 26:12)
- ** Usually very self confident (Neh 2:20; Rom 1:1-5)
- ** Can convey bad news without watering it down (Acts 27:10)
- ** will fight and argue vehemently when necessary (Neh 13:25; Acts 15:2)
- ** Persist despite resistance (Neh 4:21; 2 Cor 1:8-11)
- ** Earnestly reprimand people who mess up without mincing words (Neh 5:9-14; 1 Cor 16:7-9)
- ** Have fiery tempers (Neh 13:7-9, 25)
- ** Put work first and complete it with dedication (Neh 6:1; Rom 15:23-28; 1 Cor 16:7-9)
- ** Are determined and disciplined (Acts 9:1-2; 1 Cor 9:26-27)
- ** Encourage others to work hard (1 Cor 15:58; 2 Thess 3:6-12)
- ** Aren't easily deterred (Neh 6:10-13; 2 Cor 4:13)
- ** Do not tolerate error and refuse to work with people who disagree with them (Neh 13:28; Acts 15:37-39)
- ** Do not respect weak leaders (Neh 5:6; 6:2-4,8)

