

Sacred Pathways: Nine Ways to Connect with God

Week 4: Activists Loving God through Confrontation

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ACTIVISTS *Loving God through Confrontation*

Activists serve a God of justice, and their favorite Scripture is often the story of Jesus' cleansing of the temple. They define worship as standing against evil and calling sinners to repentance. These Christians often view the church as a place to recharge their batteries so they can go back into the world to wage war against injustice.

ASSESSMENT INSTRUCTIONS:

Score the following statements on a scale of 0 to 5, with 0 being not true at all and 5 being very true. Record your answer in the space provided.

The highest number of points possible per pathway is 30. The higher your score, the stronger the dominance of this spiritual temperament is in your life. But remember, most of us have more than one spiritual temperament. Any score of 15 or higher indicates a tendency toward this temperament.

Are you an activist?

____ 1. I feel closest to God when I am cooperating with him in standing up for his justice: writing letters to government officials and newspaper editors, picketing at a place of injustice, urging people to vote, or becoming informed about current issues.

____ 2. I get very frustrated if I see apathetic Christians who don't become active. I want to drop everything else I'm doing and help the church overcome its apathy.

____ 3. The terms *courageous confrontation* and *social activism* are very appealing to me.

____ 4. Activities such as confronting a social evil, attending a meeting of the local school board to challenge the new curriculum, and volunteering on a political campaign are important to me.

____ 5. Again, on a scale of 0 to 5, how much does the statement describing the heart's cry of the activist resonate with you in comparison with the others?

- Naturalist: let me be outdoors.
- Sensate: let me experience.
- Traditionalist: let me remember.
- Ascetic: let me be alone.
- **Activist: let me conquer.**
- Caregiver: let me care.
- Enthusiast: let me celebrate.
- Contemplative: let me feel.
- Intellectual: let me think.

____ 6. I would rather stand in the rain for an hour to confront an evil than sit in a room by myself for an hour and pray, take a walk through the woods, or spend an hour reading a book.

Total of all your answers: _____