DiscipleType Overview Guide

A Resource for Personal Study or Small Group Discussion

Welcome to DiscipleType

Have you ever wondered why certain spiritual habits feel natural and life-giving to you, while others feel dry or exhausting?

The Apostle Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 12 that the church is one body made up of many distinct parts—hands, eyes, feet, and hearts. We shouldn't expect that we will think, feel, act, or express our devotion in the exact same way.

The DiscipleType framework helps you discover your unique God-given spiritual wiring. By identifying how God made you to connect with him and serve others, you can stop forcing yourself into someone else's routine, step into spiritual freedom, and help both yourself and your local church function in its full strength.

The 7 Body Parts & 14 DiscipleTypes

The framework is organized into 7 core spiritual areas (focusing on parts of the body), each containing two primary DiscipleTypes:

1. The Mind: Thinkers

Believers who connect with God through logic, study, culture, and thoughtful reflection.

- **Rationalists**: Use reason, evidence, and clear theology to understand God and express the faith.
- **Culturalists**: Engage with God by observing modern culture, science, and innovation to explain faith in contemporary ways.

2. The Heart: Sensers

Believers who connect with God through creation, aesthetics, and deep emotional resonance.

- **Naturalists**: Find God's beauty outdoors, expressing love for him in nature and when surrounded by creation.
- **Artists**: Express devotion through music, painting, drama, and creative forms of worship.

3. The Core: Protectors

Believers who anchor the community in truth, history, order, and biblical roots.

- **Scripturalists**: Dedicated to the deep study, preservation, and daily application of the Bible.
- **Traditionalists**: Cherish the historical continuity of the church, creeds, and liturgy.

4. The Limbs: Doers

Believers who connect with God through practical action, tangible care, and social impact.

- **Altruists**: Serve God through direct acts of compassion, personal hospitality, and helping those in need.
- **Activists**: Live out their faith through standing against injustice, community efforts, and societal transformation.

DiscipleType Continued

5. The Conscience: Followers
Believers who emphasize personal integrity, righteousness, and intentional spiritual disciplines.

- **Moralists**: Focus on personal devotion, holy living, obedience, and pursuing an ethical life pleasing to God.
- **Ritualists**: Connect with God through structured routines, liturgical calendars, symbolic acts, physical rituals, and set prayers.

6. The Spirit: Seers
Believers who seek direct experience, inner reflection, and the supernatural work of God.

- **Mysticists**: Crave quiet contemplation, inner reflection, and deep personal communion with God's presence.
- **Supernaturalists**: Expect God's active, miraculous power, spiritual gifts, and direct divine intervention in daily life.

7. The Voice: Communicators
Believers driven to instruct the church and share the message of Christ with the world.

- **Catechists**: Passionate about teaching believers, deepening spiritual formation, and guiding church members into maturity.
- **Evangelists**: Driven by outreach, sharing the gospel with non-believers, and inviting people to follow Jesus.

Small Group Discussion Questions
Use these questions in a group session or for personal journaling.

1. Looking through the 14 types above, which 1 or 2 types immediately feel like home to you? Where do you experience the most joy in your walk with God?
2. Have you ever tried to force yourself into a spiritual habit (e.g., long prayer sessions, rigorous academic study, or street evangelism) that felt draining? How does understanding your DiscipleType change how you view that experience?
3. Which DiscipleType feels the most opposite or foreign to your natural style? How might that opposite type actually help balance and stretch your faith?
4. Think about your local church or small group. Which DiscipleTypes seem strongly represented? Are there any types that might be underserved or missing?

Next Steps for Growth

- Give yourself permission to prioritize the spiritual disciplines that align with how God designed you.
- Consider putting time and energy into developing those DiscipleTypes that are foreign to you or push you out of your comfort zone.
- Look for opportunities in your local church where your specific DiscipleType can solve a real need.

Ready to Dive Deeper?
Consider the consulting options provided by DiscipleType, which are available for churches, ministries, and individuals.