



Enneagram #8 – The Challenger is usually the most dominant personality, strong and confident – if not overly aggressive and in control. They are the providers and they champion others to greatness.

The Edgy Challenger

John 1:23 (TPT)

So, John answered them, “I am fulfilling Isaiah’s prophecy: ‘I am an urgent, thundering voice shouting in the desert—clear the way and prepare your hearts for the coming of the Lord Yahweh!’”

Matthew 3:4, 7-12 (TPT)

Now, John wore clothing made from camel’s hair, tied at his waist with a leather strap, and his food consisted of dried locusts and wild honey.... But when he saw many coming from among the wealthy elite of Jewish society and many of the religious leaders known as Pharisees coming to witness the baptism, he began to denounce them, saying, “You offspring of vipers! Who warned you to slither away like snakes from the fire of God’s judgment? You must prove your repentance by a changed life. And don’t presume you can get away with merely saying to yourselves, ‘But we’re Abraham’s descendants!’ For I tell you, God can awaken these stones to become sons of Abraham! The axe is now ready to cut down the trees at their very roots. Every fruitless, rotten tree will be chopped down and thrown into the fire. Those who repent I baptize with water, but there is coming a Man after me who is more powerful than I am. In fact, I’m not even worthy enough to pick up his sandals. He will submerge you into union with the Spirit of Holiness and with a raging fire! He comes with a winnowing fork in his hands and comes to his threshing floor to sift what is worthless from what is pure. And he is ready to sweep out his threshing floor and gather his wheat into his granary, but the straw he will burn up with a fire that can’t be extinguished!”

The Positive Reflection of the Challenger

1. He was powerful, but submitted to one greater than himself.
2. He was confrontational, but only for God’s purposes.

3. He was courageous in the face of imminent death.
4. He was one of the greatest men to ever walk the earth.

The Problem – very direct = tactless

The Negative Reflection of the Challenger

1. He was defiant, bordering on arrogance.
2. He was not concerned about people’s personal feelings or reputations.
3. He was heartless about both the immediate and eternal future of his enemies.
4. He was impulsive with no fear of the consequences.

The Pro – he finished what he started = immovable

The Best Reflection of the Challenger

Jesus was, without a doubt, the strongest and most dominant leader to walk the earth. He was truly omnipotent and self-sufficient. He led individuals from among them, but was the only person to have changed human history – and will lead everyone who believes in him to heaven.

Healthy Challengers

Matthew 3:13-17 (TPT)

Then Jesus left Galilee to come to the Jordan to be baptized by John. But when he waded into the water, John resisted him, saying, “Why are you doing this? I’m the one who needs to be baptized by you, and yet you come to be baptized by me?” Jesus replied, “It is only right to do all that God requires.” Then John baptized Jesus. And as Jesus rose up out of the water, the heavenly realm opened up over him and he saw the Holy Spirit descend out of the heavens and rest upon him in the form of a dove. Then suddenly the voice of the Father shouted from the sky, saying, “This is the Son I love, and my greatest delight is in him.”

- Stand up for what is right without destroying those they oppose.
- Finish what they start, regardless of the cost to themselves.
- Pioneer new horizons, knowing full well pioneers get all the arrows.
- Charge the enemy, even if it costs them their lives.

James 3:17 NLT

But the wisdom from above is first of all pure. It is also peace loving, gentle at all times, and willing to yield to others. It is full of mercy and the fruit of good deeds. It shows no favoritism and is always sincere.

Eights need you to love and appreciate:

- Our attempts to be tender and transparent.
- Our desire to get straight to the point and our disdain for flattery.
- Our passion for conquest and our consistent need to be challenged.

Pastor Rick's Reading List

The Road Back to You	Ian Morgan Cron and Suzanne Stabile
The Path Between Us	Suzanne Stabile



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