

Sacred Pathways

Give each statement a value from 1 to 5.

(1=least true for you, 5=being most true)

- ___ 1. I feel closest to God when I'm surrounded by what he has made – the mountains, the forests, or the sea.
- ___ 2. I enjoy attending a "high church" service with incense and formal Communion or Eucharist.
- ___ 3. The words tradition and history are very appealing to me.
- ___ 4. Taking an overnight retreat by myself at a monastery where I could spend large amounts of time alone in a small room, or praying to God and studying his Word, are activities I would enjoy.
- ___ 5. I would like to awaken the church from its apathy.
- ___ 6. I feel closest to God when I see him in the needy, the poor, the sick, and the imprisoned. I feel God's presence most strongly when I am sitting quietly beside the bed of someone who is lonely or ill or taking a meal to someone in need. You can count on me to offer a ride or volunteer for healing activities.
- ___ 7. God is an exciting God, and we should be excited about worshiping him. I don't understand how some Christians say they love God, and then act like they're going to a funeral whenever they walk into church.
- ___ 8. The words *lover*, *intimacy*, and *heart* are very appealing to me.
- ___ 9. I feel close to God when I participate in several hours of uninterrupted study time – reading God's Word or good Christian books and then perhaps having an opportunity to teach (or participate in a discussion with) a small group.
- ___ 10. I feel cut off if I have to spend too much time indoors just listening to speakers or singing songs. Nothing helps me connect more with God better than being outside.
- ___ 11. I'd have a difficult time worshiping in a church building that is plain and lacks a sense of awe or majesty. I have a difficult time worshiping through second-rate Christian art or music.

- ___ 12. Participating in a formal liturgy or prayer-book service, developing symbols that I could place in my car, home or office, and developing a Christian calendar for our family to follow are activities that I would enjoy.
- ___ 13. I would really enjoy spending time on a night watch, taking a short vow of silence, or simplifying my life.
- ___ 14. I connect with God best when I'm cooperating with him in standing up for his justice; writing letters to government officials and newspaper editors, picketing at an abortion clinic, urging people to vote, or becoming familiar with current issues.
- ___ 15. I grow weary of Christians who spend their time singing songs while a sick neighbor goes without a hot meal or a family in need doesn't get help fixing their car.
- ___ 16. The words *celebration* and *joy* are very appealing to me.
- ___ 17. I really enjoy having thirty minutes of uninterrupted time a day to sit in a quiet prayer and enjoying his presence.
- ___ 18. I spend more money on books than music tapes.
- ___ 19. I would prefer to worship God by spending an hour beside a small brook than by participating in a group service.
- ___ 20. The words *sensuous*, *colorful*, and *aromatic* are very appealing to me.
- ___ 21. I would really enjoy developing a personal rule (or ritual) of prayer.
- ___ 22. I feel closest to God when I am alone and there is nothing to distract me from focusing on his presence.
- ___ 23. 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.
- ___ 24. The words *service* and *compassion* are very appealing to me.
- ___ 25. I would enjoy attending a workshop on learning to worship through dance or attending several worship sessions with contemporary music. I expect that God is going to move in some unexpected way.
- ___ 26. When I think of God, I think of love, friendship, and adoration more than anything else.

- ___ 27. I connect with God best when I learn something new about him that I didn't understand before. My mind needs to be stimulated. It's very important to me that I know exactly what I believe.
- ___ 28. If I could escape to a garden to pray on a cold day, walk through a park on a warm day, and take a trip by myself to the mountains on another day, I would be very happy.
- ___ 29. I would really enjoy using drawing exercise or art to improve my prayer life.
- ___ 30. I feel closest to God when I'm participating in a familiar form of worship that has memories dating back to my childhood. Rituals and traditions move me more than anything else.
- ___ 31. I would describe my faith as more "internal" than "external".
- ___ 32. The words *courageous*, *confrontation* and *social activism* are very appealing to me.
- ___ 33. I sense God's power when I am counseling a friend who has lost a job, preparing meals for or fixing the car of a family in need, or spending a week at an orphanage in Mexico.
- ___ 34. I spend more money on music and worship tapes than books.
- ___ 35. I would rather be alone with God, contemplating who he is, than participating in a formal liturgy or being distracted by a walk outside.
- ___ 36. I get frustrated when the church focuses too much on feelings and spiritual experience. Of far more importance is the need to understand the Christian faith and have a proper doctrine.
- ___ 37. Seeing God's beauty in nature is more moving to me than understanding new concepts, participating in a formal religious service, or participating in social causes.
- ___ 38. I feel closest to God when I'm in an environment that allows my senses to come alive – when I can see, smell, hear and almost taste his majesty.
- ___ 39. Individualism within the church is a real danger. Christianity is a corporate faith, and most of our worship should have a corporate expression.

- ___ 40. The words *silence*, *solitude*, and *discipline* are very appealing to me.
- ___ 41. Activities like confronting a social evil, attending a meeting to challenge the new curriculum before the local school board, and volunteering on a political campaign are important to me.
- ___ 42. I would rather nurse someone to health or help someone repair their house than teach an adult Sunday school class, go on a prayer and fasting retreat, or take a lonely walk in the woods.
- ___ 43. I connect with God best when my heart is sent soaring and I feel like I want to burst, worship God all day long, and shout out his Name. Celebrating God and his love is my favorite form of worship.
- ___ 44. The most difficult times in my faith are when I can't feel God's presence within me
- ___ 45. The words *concepts* and *truth* are very appealing to me.

Sacred Pathway	•—•—	Add	—•—•	Score	
<input type="checkbox"/> Naturalist	1	10	19	28	37
<input type="checkbox"/> Caregiver	6	15	24	33	42
<input type="checkbox"/> Sensate	2	11	20	29	38
<input type="checkbox"/> Enthusiast	7	16	25	34	43
<input type="checkbox"/> Traditionalist	3	12	21	30	39
<input type="checkbox"/> Contemplative	8	17	26	35	44
<input type="checkbox"/> Ascetics	4	13	22	31	40
<input type="checkbox"/> Activists	5	14	23	32	41
<input type="checkbox"/> Intellectual	9	18	27	36	45

Mark the box next to your two or three highest scoring Sacred Pathways.