

INCUBATION - B VIBRANT

What Energy Do You Bring into the Room?

[\[VIDEO\]](#)

I just read David Brooks' new book: *How To Know A Person*. In that book is a chapter on Personality. The title for the Chapter is: "Personality: What Energy Do You Bring into the Room?" He is talking about people. I would like to think about that from the perspective of the church. Let's incubate on that.

"What Energy Do You Bring into the Room?" In this case the "You" is the Church, and the room is the neighborhood. So, it is "What Energy Does Your Church Bring into the Neighborhood."

Brooks talks about The Big Five Personality traits:

- 1) **EXTROVERSION** | Warm, gregarious, excitement seekers. Extroverts have the perspective of "Can't wait!" "So excited!" "Love my life!!"

WHAT VIBE IS YOUR CHURCH GIVING OFF TO ITS NEIGHBORHOOD?

- 2) **CONSCIENTIOUSNESS** | People who have this trait are disciplined, persevering, organized. They focus on long-term goals. How does your church do with that? Too often we try something once and move on to the next.

WHEN IT COMES TO BEING IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD, HOW IS YOUR CHURCH CALLED TO BE IN IT FOR THE LONG-HAUL?

HOW ARE YOU CALLED TO PERSEVERANCE?

- 3) **NEUROTICISM** | These are people who struggle through life. They tend to have a lot of negative emotions towards themselves. I see that in the church. We put ourselves down. No. Stop. We are the body of Christ.

WHERE IS YOUR CHURCH TOO NEGATIVE ON ITSELF?

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WHERE IS YOUR CHURCH NOT HONORING THE REALITY OF BEING THE BODY OF CHRIST?

- 4) **AGREEABLENESS** | As a personality trait, those who score well on agreeableness get along with people. Of course the church gets along with its neighbors, right? Well, not always. Sometimes we create an us versus them mentality.

HOW WELL DO YOU GET ALONG WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS?

WHAT ACTION STEPS COULD YOU TAKE TO INCREASE YOUR AGREEABLENESS?

- 5) **OPENNESS** | How open are you towards other? Your openness is dependent up your tolerance for difference. The more open you are the more welcoming of diversity you are.

HOW OPEN IS YOUR CHURCH?

WHAT MIGHT YOUR CHURCH DO TO BE MORE OPEN TO ITS NEIGHBORS?

WHEN WE ARE OPEN TO OTHERS, WHAT KIND OF ENERGY DOES THAT BRING INTO THE ROOM?

Bring such energy. Be Vibrant, my friends. Be Vibrant.