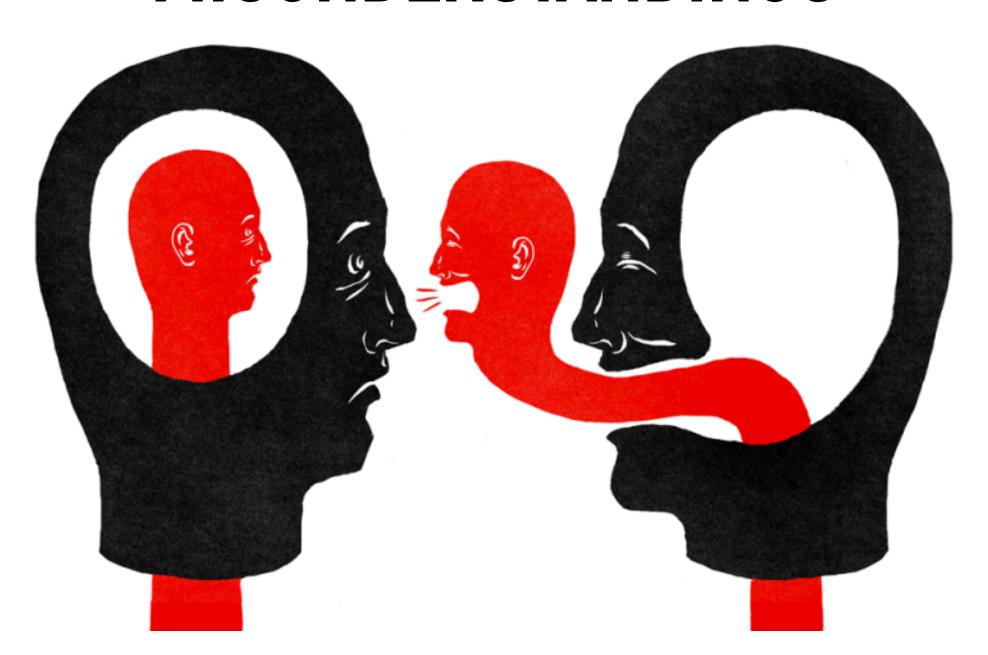


## MISUNDERSTANDINGS



## GOD VALUES BOTH QUALITIES

- The Bible often shows godly people possessing various degrees of introversion and extroversion. Isaac, for example, valued his evening meditation time (Gen. 24:63). Moses spent 40 years as a shepherd, and repeatedly found his position of authority uncomfortable. The prophets came in "all shapes and sizes", personality-wise. There were loners like Jeremiah and Elijah, and very outgoing men who vigorously leapt into public service, like Daniel, Nehemiah, Zechariah, and Haggai.
- Jesus, who showed an unmatched ability to be outgoing, also relished His private time (Matt. 14:13, Mk. 1:35, 6:46, Lk. 5:16, 6:12).

## THE DIVERSITY MAKES US STRONGER

- Everybody has something different to offer in a church, and no two people are exactly alike, even if they generally fit into one of the two categories.
- Ephesians 4:16 Each one must "function properly"
- 1 Corinthians 12:12ff You can't change certain qualities
- Romans 12:4ff Everybody can do *something*



- 1. Introspection leads to mature faith, but it must be shared to be worth anything (1 Tim. 4:6ff).
- 2. Solitude can be very energizing, but it is unhealthy to seek total separation from others (Proverbs 18:1).
- 3. We must be bold enough to say what needs to be said, but smart enough to know when to keep quiet (1 Thess. 5:14, James 1:19, 3:1ff, Prov. 10:19).

## PERSONALITY CHALLENGES

- Using a particular personality trait as an excuse for sin, such as a hot temper (Eph. 4:26), sarcasm (Eph. 4:29, Rom. 14:19), shyness that leads to cowardice (Rev. 21:8, 1 Pet. 3:15), or independence to the point of self-reliance and rebellion (2 Pet. 2:10). Remember James 4:17!
- Thinking that *every* personality trait is static (Col. 3:5ff).
- Your unique personality is not a hindrance or some kind of handicap, but a call to serve where you are most useful!

