Presence & Influence Profile / PIP

Instructions:

Think of a very specific social setting that is not your family or friend group. This can be a committee in your church, a work team, or a committee for a volunteer organization, one in which you are involved. Take the profile with that one setting in mind. For each statement determine your answer with 5 being the highest and 1 being the lowest or 5 being “yes” and 1 being “no”.

This profile is geared for a Western context such as the United States, Canada or Europe.

1. The gender of most of the group is like me 1 2 3 4 5
2. The ethnicity of most of the group is like me 1 2 3 4 5
3. The primary beliefs and values of the group are like me 1 2 3 4 5
4. I am an extrovert 1 2 3 4 5
5. People think I’m attractive or nice-looking 1 2 3 4 5
6. I’m middle class or upper class 1 2 3 4 5
7. I have a lot of education for my group 1 2 3 4 5
8. I am married or in a committed relationship 1 2 3 4 5
9. I have an important role in this group 1 2 3 4 5
10. People usually pay attention to what I say 1 2 3 4 5
11. When I walk into a room, people seek me out 1 2 3 4 5
12. I’m recognized and known outside this group 1 2 3 4 5
13. I consider myself very self-directed and motivated 1 2 3 4 5
14. I like to take risks 1 2 3 4 5
15. People say I have leadership gifts 1 2 3 4 5
16. I consider myself hopeful and optimistic 1 2 3 4 5
17. I’m comfortable engaging strangers in conversation 1 2 3 4 5
18. I am respected in the group 1 2 3 4 5
19. I am usually successful with whatever I do 1 2 3 4 5
20. I have a leadership or management role in this group 1 2 3 4 5
21. People come to me for problem solving. 1 2 3 4 5
22. People sometimes say they are intimidated by me. 1 2 3 4 5
23. I usually have the last word in decisions. 1 2 3 4 5
24. I like to be in control. 1 2 3 4 5
25. I sometimes lose my temper in public. 1 2 3 4 5
26. If there is a personnel problem, I can resolve it. 1 2 3 4 5
27. People remember what I say after a meeting. 1 2 3 4 5
28. I can make decisions about how money is spent. 1 2 3 4 5
29. I have a self-importance tendencies. 1 2 3 4 5
30. I generally wake up in the morning energized. 1 2 3 4 5

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Scoring – Add up the total amount of points.

In the setting for which you took this profile, if you have

150 – 100 points = Maximum influence/presence. Your task is to steward your power as Jesus did and to take special precautions to hold yourself accountable to others to use your power appropriately – not for status or gain but for service to the group’s mission and calling to be Christ to others.

99- 50 points = Moderate influence/presence. Your task is to develop an appropriate spiritually mature presence in order to increase your contribution to the group and to be a clearer light for Christ.

49- 5 points = Little influence/presence. This might be due to your being “different” in multiple ways from your group, or being undeveloped as a leader, or struggling with insecurities or relational problems. Your task is to find a mentor, counselor, or spiritual director who can help you grow as an influencer and as the light of Christ wherever you are.

Cautionary Thoughts –

We are created in God’s image for significance and purpose in God’s world. Embodying a profound sense of that is the first Gospel message that people “hear”. They do not hear what you say but they “hear” how they experience you in person. If you find yourself hiding or insecure or using “helping” to gain recognition, Christ invites you to embrace your true significance in him. Find a counselor, mentor, or spiritual director to help you develop into all that God created you to be.

On the other hand, the point of having power is to influence for Christ, not for personal gain or status. If you begin to feel proud, better than others or judgmental, if you begin to believe you “know” best without deep prayer and counsel with others, if you find yourself taking up the majority of space in decision-making, you are probably using power for personal enhancement, not for serving the mission of Christ. Seek out others to hold you accountable and to mature in your identity and in your walk with Christ.