

GOD Designed Marriage

Are you ready to take your relationship to the next level?
Let's get started!

To learn more, and for additional resources please don't hesitate to reach out!

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First of all, we want to congratulate you on your commitment to strengthening your marriage by purchasing this eCourse.

We understand there are many other activities you might prefer. However, we assure you that investing in your marriage is one of the most significant choices you can make.

We believe that God designed marriage as a means for us to experience relationships deeply. While God has granted some the special gift of singleness, as mentioned in 1st Corinthians 7, for many, marriage is a divine design from the beginning, intended to be a powerful reflection of His nature.

God created man and woman in His image, and together, they can more fully experience His nature in their lives.

This eCourse has been specifically designed for you. Through these lessons, your marriage will be empowered, equipped, and enriched.

Please feel free to ask questions, laugh, and have fun. We are here to serve you!

Chris Behnke + Prudence O'Haire

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"Unfortunately, Dean and Wanda, your marriage has been classified as 'Toxic .'"

A Brief Message From Chris Behnke

The GOD Designed Marriage eCourse stands apart from other popular Christian marriage eCourses.

In this eCourse, we utilize an assessment tool I developed over the last two decades: **The NEXUS Profile**. While there are many similar assessments available, the NEXUS Profile distinguishes itself in several key ways.

At its core, the **NEXUS is 100% Biblically based.**

My journey in developing the NEXUS Profile involved years of training, studying, and working with most of the major assessments. I also extensively studied the works of influential thinkers like Sir Francis Galton, William Martson, and Donald Clifton. This process revealed powerful truths from existing resources YET highlighted significant deviations from God's model in many of the popular instruments, many of which had concerning origins.

This realization led to the creation of the NEXUS Profile.

The foundational approach of the NEXUS is not unique; it builds upon over a millennium of human research and my personal experience interacting and working with thousands of people across various businesses.

Our eCourse is designed to help married couples better understand each other, enriching their lives and empowering them to fulfill their God-given roles on earth.

We recognize that the enemy seeks to undermine marriage. Prudence and I hope this eCourse will contribute to reclaiming this vital area.

The NEXUS Profile and its associated eCourses have helped save marriages, businesses, and personal relationships for many attendees.

To maximize the benefits of this eCourse, come prepared to learn and be open-minded. Approach each exercise with seriousness and effort, and I assure you the results will be profound.

It's also crucial to understand that a single eCourse cannot resolve all issues or change ingrained habits overnight. Our tools will provide new perspectives, but lasting improvement in your marriage will require deliberate, ongoing effort.

~Chris Behnke

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friends, and everyone we encounter. Undertaking deep inner healing—and its ongoing maintenance—is one of the most challenging and selfless acts we can perform.

QUESTION: What do you think is your responsibility in advancing your understanding of your mis-alignments?

QUESTION: What specific actions have you taken to eliminate both known and unknown sins from your life?

We often normalize the dysfunction stemming from our mis-alignment. "Normal" simply means it's accepted, expected, typical, and unquestioned. However, normal does not necessarily equate to right. As God's people, we should not conform to the world's version of "normal." We should steer clear of bad habits, dishonor, impurity in thoughts and speech, hopelessness, backbiting, lying, cheating, and fostering addictions. The list is extensive.

2 Corinthians 5:18 states, "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation: old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new."

Yes, we have been saved and have our ticket to heaven. But what about becoming a new creation? Have we shed all the old hindrances to our spiritual and emotional growth, including the fears deeply embedded within us?

Many of us fail to grasp that we are instructed to renounce sin. We are called not to feed the monster of sin but to transform it into something new, to adopt the mind of Christ.

We are **more than** just *sinners saved by grace*; we are the **royal, adopted sons and daughters of the Most High God.**

So, how do we undergo this transformation? How do we align ourselves with the Lord and our true purpose, shedding the baggage passed down through generations?

Undergoing deliverance ministry and maintaining a clean slate is crucial for our emotional health. Regardless of how healthy we think we are, this process is essential for all, helping to eliminate both visible and invisible burdens. The common teaching to "do our best and God will do the rest" is true, but deliverance ministry is a vital step for Christians. We must thoroughly cleanse our emotional house and then keep it clean. Merely trying to "be good" while plagued by persistent negative influences is not effective.

We need to become adept at fighting the unseen battle.

Romans 6:11 guides us: "In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires."

"In any given moment we have two options; to step forward into growth or step back into safety."

Abraham Maslow

This choice is ours to make.

QUESTION: What do you understand about deliverance ministry, and who do you think it is intended for?

QUESTION: Have you or your family ever made excuses for continuing mis-alignments with dysfunction? If so, why? If not, why not?

QUESTION: What are some practical methods you can use to increase your understanding of your own mis-alignments and realign them with the Lord's teachings?

unique blend of qualities God has instilled in you.

Take a few minutes and pray. Asking the Holy Spirit to reveal to you the NEXUS type you haven't been using as effectively as you should be. The 'type' that, if you **DID** use it more, **would drastically improve your relationships.**

Take a few minutes and write out any thoughts:

Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal to you the NEXUS 'TYPE' you need to focus on right now in your life. Write that 'type' here:

The NEXUS 'TYPE' you wrote above is your answer to your **PIVOT QUESTION!**

Your PIVOT Question:

Should I PIVOT TO: _____?

Spend the rest of the time in this exercise, praying about how you can integrate this PIVOT QUESTION in your daily relationships. You can write any additional thoughts here:

To foster healthy changes and develop new habits, being mindful of your responses and reactions during conflicts is crucial. What are some typical strategies you employ in conflict situations?

Do these methods reflect those you observed while growing up?

QUESTION: Do you believe your methods of resolving conflict are effective and healthy?

QUESTION: What are some reasons you think conflict resolution might be unsuccessful in your approach?

During moments of heated conflict, it's essential for at least one person to break the cycle of destructive behavior to prevent negative conflict strategies from escalating. This requires first exercising self-control in our speech, and then consciously shifting our approach before we say things we might regret. Remember, once spoken, words cannot be taken back.

QUESTION: What new strategies can you implement to manage your reactions the next time you feel yourself becoming emotionally heated?

When we make mistakes, it's crucial to practice forgiveness - both towards each other and ourselves. We cannot offer what we don't possess. If we haven't learned to love and forgive ourselves, it becomes challenging to love and forgive others as God instructs us to. The devil often tempts us to project our insecurities and fears onto our spouses, leading to blame and conflict.

The choice is ours: to engage in destructive conflict or to strive for healthy, constructive disagreements.

If we cause a problem, it's our responsibility to rectify it. We need to stop intentionally or inadvertently hurting our spouses and instead, work together as a unified team. Recognize that harming each other is essentially harming our own team.

Conflict doesn't equate to divorce.

Healthy conflict is **natural** and **necessary** for **growth** in a relationship. It's often difficult to remain kind when upset, but being prepared for conflicts can help navigate them more smoothly. Continuously learn about yourself and your partner.

QUESTION: How can you use your spouse's NEXUS Profile score to honor them during conflicts?

QUESTION: Do you view yourself and your spouse as a team? If so, why? If not, why not?

Facing fear, especially when it manifests as dread, is inherently uncomfortable. Growth, however, doesn't occur without discomfort. We must embrace discomfort if we wish to grow in all aspects of life.

It's also important to recognize that our fears don't just affect us; they impact our spouses, children, and even our workplaces. The people around us and our environments can be influenced by our fears. While these fears are ours to manage, failing to do so affects everyone around us.

QUESTION: Identify some fears or challenges that have been a recurring part of your life.

QUESTION: How do you believe those fears or challenges have impacted, or continue to impact, your spouse?

Understanding ourselves thoroughly is crucial to resisting our fears and avoiding temptations. However, many of us struggle with being vulnerable enough to share our difficulties with our spouses. Despite this challenge, it's vital to communicate our fears to our partners. This openness not only enables them to support us effectively but also informs how we can pray for and encourage each other. Sharing our fears with our spouses should not be a source of shame. Instead, we should view our spouse as an integral part of ourselves, recognizing that their victories are our victories too.

QUESTION: What fears, previously unknown to your spouse, can you share with them?

QUESTION: What are some of your spouses' fears? Can you list some?

"I'm not afraid of storms, for I am learning to sail my ship"

Louisa May Alcott

Understanding our fears and challenges doesn't mean we let them dominate us. Instead, it prepares us to raise our shield of faith whenever the enemy launches an attack, targeting our vulnerabilities with everything they know we abhor. This shield of faith is forged during times when we have affirmed our allegiance to the Lord and entrusted Him with every aspect of our lives, not just parts.

It's also important to recognize that sometimes, it is the Lord Himself who tests us. He may be assessing whether we are ready to advance to a higher level of spiritual or personal growth. Not every challenge we face is a scheme of the devil.

Being prepared for these tests, whether they come from external forces or from God, requires a thorough awareness of both our strengths and weaknesses. With this knowledge, we can confidently face any test of our character."

"Always do what you are afraid to do"

Ralph Waldo Emerson

QUESTION: What is one thing that you have been held back from due to your fears?

QUESTION: What are some practical methods you can use to start overcoming your fears?

Remaining trapped in the grip of our fears should not, and need not, define our lives. Often, it's the 'what if' thoughts that hinder us from making necessary changes, saying what needs to be said, and doing what must be done. The chains of fear have bound God's people largely because we have permitted it. It's crucial that we recognize and exercise our authority over these fears.

Our emotional well-being is foundational.

If we're not emotionally healthy, it becomes challenging to connect deeply with our spouse on spiritual and physical levels. A strong emotional bond is essential for growth in the other areas.

QUESTION: On a scale from 1 to 10 (10 being the highest) how would you rate the current emotional connection with your spouse? (circle)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

QUESTION: Do you struggle to connect emotionally with your spouse? If yes, can you explain why?

QUESTION: Considering your NEXUS type, in what ways does your spouse fulfill your emotional needs?

QUESTION: What practical steps can you take to consistently strengthen the emotional connection with your spouse?



“Just because I made a wrong turn is no reason to raise your voice at me, Phil.”

In terms of our spiritual connection:

Cultivating spiritual growth together as a couple is a challenging endeavor. The forces of evil often seek to disrupt this unity because together, couples are significantly stronger. When united spiritually, couples can achieve remarkable things. Engaging in activities like mission trips, classes, reading books, attending seminars, webinars, and serving together plays a crucial role in fostering spiritual growth as a couple. It's important to remember that spiritual experiences and growth cannot simply be transferred from one partner to another.

Praying together might initially feel awkward and challenging. You may find that your efforts to pray together are frequently disrupted, as negative forces attempt to hinder this spiritual practice. Opening up to your spouse on a spiritual level involves a high degree of vulnerability. Despite the challenges, establishing a consistent routine of praying together is vital for the health and growth of a marriage.

QUESTION: On a scale from 1 to 10 (10 being the highest) how would you rate the consistency of spiritual connectedness in your marriage? (circle)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

QUESTION: What, in your view, does it mean to establish a spiritual connection with your spouse?

QUESTION: Do you struggle to establish a spiritual connection with your spouse? If yes, what are the reasons behind this challenge?

QUESTION: What practical steps can you take to enhance the spiritual connection in your relationship?

Building a strong spiritual connection with our spouse is often one of the most challenging aspects of a relationship, yet it is also profoundly important. Even in the midst of a busy life, finding moments for a brief prayer or sharing personal insights can be meaningful. Consistent communication and asking each other about your spiritual journey can foster this connection.

Now, regarding our physical connection with our spouse:

“True intimacy is a state in which nothing exists between two people; no space, no inhibitions, and no lies.”

Ranata Suzuki

Nurturing physical intimacy can be a complex journey for many couples. The initial honeymoon phase eventually gives way to the demands of daily life, requiring intentional effort to ensure the physical aspect of the relationship doesn't suffer.

Just like other aspects of a relationship, vulnerability in the physical domain is an ongoing process. It intersects with our human nature, making us susceptible to various temptations. Maintaining emotional and spiritual connections can provide a foundation for confidence in our physical intimacy.

Many individuals grapple with misconceptions about themselves, including shame about past behavior, dissatisfaction with their appearance, comparisons to others, unrealistic expectations, and unresolved past traumas that affect their physical relationship with their spouse.

Cultural influences have also contributed to distrust within marriages. Society bombards us with misleading messages, unrealistic images, and questionable advice, fostering insecurity and skepticism. These challenges underscore the importance of inner healing and understanding our identity in Christ to foster a healthy sexual aspect of marriage.

QUESTION: On a scale from 1 to 10 (10 being the highest) how satisfied are you with the physical aspect of your marriage relationship? (circle)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

QUESTION: What lies have you believed, or currently struggle with, about your own body?

QUESTION: Do you know where these lies originated or understand their roots?

QUESTION: In what ways, both in the past and presently, have you withheld transparency and vulnerability from your spouse?

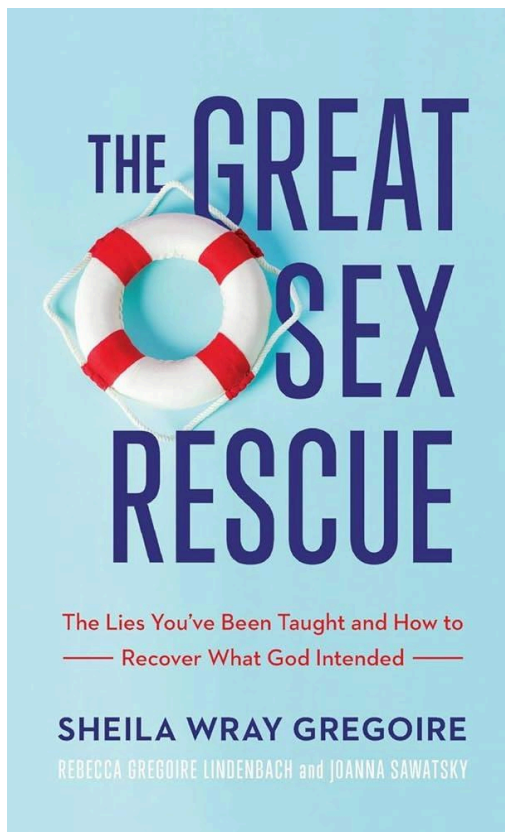
QUESTION: What do you believe is the primary obstacle hindering the growth of the physical aspect in your marriage, and why do you think it's present?

QUESTION: In our minds, we often have expectations for how the physical dimension of our relationship should be. Have you shared these expectations with your spouse?

QUESTION: What practical steps can you personally take to contribute to the improvement of the physical aspect of your marriage?

QUESTION: Is there something about your feelings and desires in this area that you haven't yet shared with your spouse? (e.g., I'd appreciate more quality time together without distractions before bedtime, I feel upset when..., I love it when you...)

Remember that enhancing your emotional and physical connections will naturally contribute to an improved physical connection. However, even with these improvements, developing a satisfying sexual relationship requires effort and practice.



Dealing with the lies you've been taught about sex from the church.

Here's a book recommendation that challenges some of the misconceptions prevalent in religious circles and offers a biblically-based perspective.

Additionally, we recommend taking the love language test to better understand how your spouse expresses and receives love:

You can find the test at <https://5lovelanguages.com/>

QUESTION: What's something new you've learned about yourself this weekend?

When you board an airplane, the flight attendants instruct passengers to put on their own oxygen masks before assisting others. This rule exists because we must ensure our own stability and well-being before we can effectively help those around us. It's imperative that we, as individuals, are emotionally and spiritually healthy before we can fully support our spouse. After all, we cannot give to our spouse what we ourselves do not possess.

QUESTION: Considering your spouse's NEXUS Type, where do you believe you could improve in supporting them?

QUESTION: What obstacles do you think may hinder your ability to support your spouse in the highlighted area?

Supporting our spouse can be challenging, often requiring advance planning and full engagement when we're together. It's important to identify actions or behaviors that may irritate us or make us feel undervalued in our interactions with our spouses. Recognizing these areas can help us avoid causing unnecessary friction.

QUESTION: Do you feel comfortable discussing with your spouse the things you find dishonoring? If not, what are the reasons for your discomfort?

QUESTION: Can you accept feedback from your spouse about things they find dishonoring? If not, what are the reasons for your hesitation?

Discouragement can be compared to a cavity in a tooth. If left unaddressed, it worsens over time. At times, we may hesitate to address our spouse's discouragement because it might be connected to our own actions and choices. However, this is where courage comes into play.

Despite our fears, we must step in to support and encourage our spouse, demonstrating that they mean more to us than our fears do. One way to do this is by asking them how we can help.

QUESTION: In what areas can you provide encouragement to your spouse, especially if they are experiencing significant discouragement?

QUESTION: If you're uncertain about the sources of their discouragement, consider taking them on a date and asking them to share their concerns with you.

The most successful relationships are those in which both partners encourage and support each other's growth and self-development." - Jordan Peterson.

In reality, a healed and whole marriage is not perfect, but it is a precious gift to the world. God designed marriage to reflect His love and relationship with us. In a world where broken relationships often prevail, let us, as God's people, demonstrate that His power triumphs over dysfunction, pain, trauma, abuse, and death. With God's healing, wisdom, knowledge, and the blood of Jesus Christ, we are overcomers. We can set an example for future generations, known for marriages that our children and others aspire to emulate—a union that flourishes in every aspect. Amen.

NEXUS Profile

Quick GUIDE

ESSENTIAL Tools To Better Understand YOUR NEXUS Type

Definitions / Rules / Biblical References

Glossary:

The NEXUS Profile

The “NEXUS Profile” is an assessment that reveals your unique and original MOTIVATIONAL DESIGN. It quantifies the special blend of MOTIVATIONAL DRIVERS that create the person you are.

We call the “blend” of all your MOTIVATIONAL DRIVERS your ORIGINAL DESIGN Blend. This blend is made from your four “types”. Everyone has some of each of the four types. Your profile is labeled with your first (or highest-numbered) two “types”. Your “score” is the numerical assignment of all four types.

For example, if you are a 40 DRIVER, 37 INFLUENCER, 19 SOLUTIONARY, 8 STABILIZER, your NEXUS Profile would be known as a DRIVER/INFLUENCER (your two highest-numbered types). Even though someone with that score would often be referred to as a DRIVER / INFLUENCER (or DRIVER in more simple terms), you’re still a perfect blend of all four “types”.

NEXUS Type

When you complete The NEXUS Profile, the assessment analyzes your answers. It produces a unique “SCORE” for each of the four TYPES. These TYPES are:

- STABILIZER
- DRIVER
- INFLUENCER
- SOLUTIONARY

Every person is a unique “blend” of all four types. Most people have a dominant type. Occasionally a person can have a tie (or the same numerical score) in 2-3 types. While it is rare, there could be a tie in all four types. This does happen and is even expected to happen.

MOTIVATORS or Behavioral (What I Want)

There are four MOTIVATORS:

- BALANCE
- PROGRESS
- RELATIONAL UNITY
- SOLUTIONS

You can think of each of these as the gas for your car; like Diesel vs. Gasoline. What is the “gas” that makes YOUR “car” go? What is the motivation behind “why you do what you do?” We often describe these “MOTIVATORS” as energy, fuel, or “drivers”.

Ethic (Approach to Achieve)

There are four ETHICS:

- INFORMATION
- DETERMINATION
- CONNECTION
- UNDERSTANDING

Think of the “ETHIC” as the **reason** behind the motivator. For a SOLUTIONARY, the ETHIC is “UNDERSTANDING”; it’s the “why.”

A SOLUTIONARY uses the “fuel” of UNDERSTANDING to deliver SOLUTIONS to the world. We describe this as “catalyzed by.” So, a SOLUTIONARY is catalyzed by UNDERSTANDING.

TYPE / MOTIVATOR / ETHIC Breakdown (see chart below)

TYPE	>>	MOTIVATOR	>>	ETHIC
STABILIZER	>>	BALANCE	>>	INFORMATION
DRIVER	>>	PROGRESS	>>	DETERMINATION
INFLUENCER	>>	RELATIONAL UNITY	>>	CONNECTION
SOLUTIONARY	>>	SOLUTIONS	>>	UNDERSTANDING

ORIGINAL Design

Every person is made up of MOTIVATORS. These MOTIVATORS can be described as the energy, fuel, or reasons that compel us to behave in various situations. They are behind, or underneath, our behavior, like the gas for our car. The MOTIVATORS compel the behavior and decision-making and, even more importantly, the perspective we have regarding the world around us.

These MOTIVATORS are not a new-age-kind-of-woo-woo-energy, but an accurate descriptor of the innate “push” behind why we take specific actions and don’t take others. We call it a “DESIGN” because God designed us this way. We call it ORIGINAL because we believe God made us with **specific** MOTIVATORS on **purpose** from the **beginning, before birth**, according to His unique plan for our life.

NEXUS Design Blend

Your “NEXUS Design Blend” is the blend of energies that make up who you are. It was given to you on purpose by God before birth. It doesn’t change over time. How you respond to the world DOES change. There isn’t a better, or lacking blend. Each one of us was made perfectly to God’s design, according to His purpose.

Design Approach

Think of your “Design Approach” as the special recipe in which God made you to be able to approach and tackle the things life brings to you. It’s the way you solve problems, but it’s also the way you view the world around you. It’s the blend that makes you think the way you think, do things the way you do, and say what you say. It’s your “approach” to conflict resolution, team building, communication, ideation, and thinking. Some people approach situations from a “*let’s get along*” mentality (they are called INFLUENCERS). Some people approach projects with a “*we shouldn’t start until we have all the information*” position (they are called STABILIZERS). Each “Design Approach” looks at and deals with life and the obstacles it presents, differently.

Difference (Sometimes referred to as ‘Magnitude of Difference’)

This is the point difference between “TYPE” SCORES. For example, if your NEXUS Profile is 40 DRIVER and 37 INFLUENCER, there would be a 3-point “difference” between DRIVER and INFLUENCER.

Order of Magnitude

For every 10 points of difference there is one “Order of Magnitude” difference; or 10 times greater.

So a 40 DRIVER and a 30 INFLUENCER is 1 “Order of Magnitude.” This person is 10 times more DRIVER than INFLUENCER. **This is a HUGE difference.** So a 40 DRIVER and a 20 INFLUENCER are 100 times different. If someone has a 30-point difference, they are 1000 times more of a DRIVER than an INFLUENCER.

You can also think of this as “ease of use” or “naturally inclined to.” They are 100 times more “naturally inclined” to act from DRIVER than INFLUENCER if they have a 40 DRIVER and a 20 INFLUENCER.

Catalytic Faith/Dimmer Switch

CATALYTIC FAITH describes the “perceived effectiveness” of your current DESIGN APPROACH. Think of this like a dimmer switch connected to “how well your approach is working.”

Example: SOLUTIONARY; they want to bring solutions to the world (MOTIVATOR). They do this through UNDERSTANDING (ETHIC). If the perceived effectiveness of their understanding is not producing solutions, or they are found to have inaccurate or incomplete understanding, the “FAITH” in their contribution begins to diminish. Doubt, fear, and anxiety all begin to take root inside them. We describe this as a light-in-the-room-getting-darker the longer that “things aren’t working” moment.

Misaligned/Mis-alignment

Everyone, no matter how good or bad, easy or difficult their life is, will experience a misalignment from their ORIGINAL DESIGN or ‘true nature’. When you are born, you

function just the way God intended. At that moment, you are perfectly aligned with God's original design.

Then, as life happens, you learn how to deal with the world around you and some misalignment occurs. Parents inevitably cause misalignment, as well as the circumstances you face daily throughout your life. This is a reality. However, God's original design for you was not an accident. Learning how to reprogram your brain "back" to God's original design is an essential step in being the very best version of yourself.

Negative/Positive Conflict Strategy

Each NEXUS type approaches decision-making, conversations, and conflict differently. These differences are God-designed and good! However, if purposeful action, through awareness and maturity, is not employed, you will naturally move from a positive to a negative conflict strategy. Your POSITIVE CONFLICT STRATEGY is the correct, mature way to approach any situation while acting in one specific NEXUS TYPE. Your NEGATIVE CONFLICT STRATEGY is the incorrect, immature way to approach any situation while acting in one specific NEXUS TYPE.

There are four POSITIVE CONFLICT Strategies:

- STABILIZER >> QUERY FOR INFORMATION + BALANCE
- DRIVER >> COMPEL TO POSITIVE PROGRESS
- INFLUENCER >> VISION CAST + ENCOURAGE
- SOLUTIONARY >> LISTEN + INQUISITIVE ASSESSMENT

There are four NEGATIVE CONFLICT Strategies:

- STABILIZER >> WITHHOLDING
- DRIVER >> INTIMIDATION
- INFLUENCER >> MANIPULATION
- SOLUTIONARY >> DECONSTRUCTING

NEXUS Blends (Type Blends)

In addition to the four NEXUS types, there are six BLENDS: or combinations of types. For example, someone that is primarily a SOLUTIONARY/INFLUENCER or an INFLUENCER/SOLUTIONARY is the “VISIONARY” Blend.

There are six blends, based on combinations of each of the four types. (see chart below)

NEXUS TYPE		BLEND TYPE
STABILIZER/DRIVER or DRIVER/STABILIZER	>>	OBJECTIVE
DRIVER/INFLUENCER or INFLUENCER/DRIVER	>>	INSTINCTIVE
INFLUENCER/SOLUTIONARY or SOLUTIONARY/INFLUENCER	>>	VISIONARY
SOLUTIONARY/STABILIZER or STABILIZER/SOLUTIONARY	>>	CONSCIOUS
STABILIZER/INFLUENCER or INFLUENCER/STABILIZER	>>	EMPATHETIC
SOLUTIONARY/DRIVER or DRIVER/SOLUTIONARY	>>	INDEPENDENT

Rules:

- Each of us has a unique NEXUS Profile Score (NPS), which creates our NEXUS Design Blend.
- 10 points of difference between NEXUS 'types' is a significant difference.
 - For example:
 - 40 DRIVER, 30 INFLUENCER would mean this person is a dominant DRIVER.
 - They are **far** more of a DRIVER than an INFLUENCER.
- A person's "personality" is not the same as their NEXUS Design Blend.
- A person can't function from more than one NEXUS Type simultaneously.
- We are MISALIGNED from functioning purely in alignment with our NEXUS Design Blend by our household of origin, environment, and life's circumstances.
- Even when both people are mature, different NEXUS TYPES can cause conflict.
- Once we move into our NEGATIVE CONFLICT STRATEGY, it's nearly impossible to move out of it, without pausing the interaction in the situation.

Biblical References:

- Jeremiah 1:5
 - “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.” (NIV)
- Genesis 1:27
 - So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. (NIV)
- Ecclesiastes 4:9-12
 - Two are better than one because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up his fellow. But woe to him who is alone when he falls and has not another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm, but how can one keep warm alone? And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken. (NIV)
- Revelation 19:7-9
 - Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear.” (NIV)
- 2 Corinthians 11:2
 - I am jealous for you with a godly jealousy. I promised you to one husband, to Christ, so that I might present you as a pure virgin to him. (NIV)
- Jeremiah 3:8
 - I gave faithless Israel her certificate of divorce and sent her away because of all her adulteries. Yet I saw that her unfaithful sister Judah had no fear; she also went out and committed adultery. (NIV)
- Ephesians 5:26
 - to make her holy, cleansing her by the washing with water through the word... (NIV)
- Ephesians 5:32
 - This is a profound mystery—but I am talking about Christ and the church. (NIV)
- Revelation 21:2
 - I saw the Holy City, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. (NIV)
- Colossians 3:23-24
 - Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters, since you know that you will receive an inheritance from the Lord as a reward. It is the Lord Christ you are serving. (NIV)
- Ecclesiastes 9:10
 - Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might, for in the realm of the dead, where you are going, there is neither working nor planning nor knowledge nor wisdom. (NIV)
- Ephesians 6:7-8

- Serve wholeheartedly, as if you were serving the Lord, not people, because you know that the Lord will reward each one for whatever good they do, whether they are slave or free. (NIV)
- Colossians 3:17
 - And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him. (NIV)
- James 1:27
 - Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world. (NIV)
- Mathew 18:9
 - And if your eye causes you to stumble, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than to have two eyes and be thrown into the fire of hell. (NIV)
- 2 Corinthians 5:17
 - Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here! (NIV)

The Four NEXUS Types:

There are four NEXUS Identity Types: STABILIZER, DRIVER, INFLUENCER, and SOLUTIONARY. Every person has a perfect blend of these four types designed before birth by our Designer.

Everyone has some of all FOUR types. No one has any less or more than they are supposed to have. God designed you this way on purpose. It's important to understand that He didn't make a mistake. God didn't mess up even if you might "wish" you had a bit more, or a bit less, of one of the types. He made you JUST the way you are, on purpose, by His ORIGINAL DESIGN.

You can never grow any of the four types. You were given the amount you have at birth, and it will never change. This does not mean you can't learn about and improve your ability to operate in any of the four NEXUS Types. We are all responsible for learning more about and taking advantage of all four types; regardless of our NEXUS SCORE in any given type.

Do not use terms like "I just have too much of X," or "I just don't have enough of Y TYPE" to excuse any behavior, or lack thereof.

You owe it to yourself to learn more about who God made you to be, every part of you. So dig in and learn!

This ESSENTIALS GUIDE will help you unpack, at a high level, more about yourself and those around you.

In this first section, we will go over each 'type' at a high level to give you a quick and easy snapshot of each.

REMEMBER >> NO ONE is only one type. However, for a better understanding, we will often describe each type as if someone was ONLY that one type in the examples given.

The **STABILIZER** BALANCE catalyzed by INFORMATION

BALANCE is the STABILIZER'S MOTIVATOR. STABILIZERS gather facts and information. The STABILIZER reads and analyzes.

BALANCE (Pertaining to the STABILIZER): The presence of fair, equitable, reasonable, and safe decisions, situations, and circumstances.

INFORMATION (Pertaining to the STABILIZER): The data needed to be safe, fair, smart, and well-prepared. It can also be information that seems obscure, like "odd facts." This information is not important to the stabilizer because it's odd but rather because "one can never know when you will need that information, and it's better to be prepared". They don't feel they can have too much information about a specific topic or situation that they will be faced with.

Information is a STABILIZER'S best friend.

For STABILIZERS to be effective, they need detailed information.

STABILIZERS dislike waste and unnecessary risks.

STABILIZERS take pride in ensuring that everything they do is successful.

STABILIZERS are excellent at saying "no"; which is a trait many people lack.

Learning: For a STABILIZER, it is important to read, analyze and assimilate all relevant information regarding the topic you are studying.

The ideal situation is that almost no talking takes place without details, information, charts, graphs, and statistics. The ETHIC that must be honored for these people is INFORMATION (the how and why of things). Provide them with plenty of opportunities to demonstrate their knowledge.

Do not overwhelm them with verbal information! Provide written information. Do not offer them useless information. Do not pressure them into a snap decision. They like to think in concrete, linear terms.

STABILIZERS are great with details, facts, and data to memorize and write down; technical knowledge, practical application, solid ideas, measures, quantification, tests, and proof; analysis assignments and knowledge tests.

The **DRIVER**

PROGRESS catalyzed by DETERMINATION

PROGRESS is the DRIVER'S MOTIVATOR. DRIVERS feel anxiety if action and progress are not being made. The DRIVER decides and takes action.

PROGRESS (Pertaining to the DRIVER): An individual's ability to make a difference and generate a positive outcome by making actionable and measurable progress.

DETERMINATION (Pertaining to the DRIVER): The next step is and will be obvious to them, and they will make it regardless of the situation around them. The disbelief of those around a Driver doesn't cause doubt in them and may even fuel their robustness. "How will I? I don't know, but it WILL happen; I will ensure that it does!"

DRIVERS value action and results above all else.

DRIVERS usually don't make excuses and they take personal responsibility.

DRIVERS tend to do everything themselves.

DRIVERS are driven by short-term goals and a sense of achievement.

DRIVERS tend to be too impatient to teach others.

DRIVERS are not typically great team players, nor do their strengths lie in building a team.

Learning: For a DRIVER, taking action, and deciding upon a course of action, and experiencing the outcome is the best way to learn.

DRIVERS make gut-level decisions and take action. They want to make things different and better, **now**. They want to experience their power in real-life situations.

Give them decisions to make. Do not expect work at the intimate level. Do not ask them to analyze data or solve complex problems. Don't give them more information than they ask for.

DRIVERS want to discuss practical ideas that allow immediate activity, competition, quick decisions, outlines, lists, and bullet-point assignments; practical issues based on work situations, tests of will, strength, command, and leadership.

The **INFLUENCER**

RELATIONAL UNITY catalyzed by CONNECTING

RELATIONAL UNITY is the INFLUENCER'S MOTIVATOR. INFLUENCERS need collaborative conversation to find alignment in truth. The INFLUENCER wants to connect with everyone and have everyone connect.

RELATIONAL UNITY (Pertaining to the INFLUENCER): Nurturing people's 'identities' and assuring relational unity to bring about human flourishing. They want everyone to 'like' everyone else. They want to feel like a happy, fun-loving team. They feel anxiety when relationships feel misaligned or feelings are hurt.

CONNECTING (Pertaining to the INFLUENCER): This can mean physical touch but that is not always the case. CONNECTING does mean, "having some kind of connection" with others around them (almost always verbal). They like to find common bonds and often use hyperbole to create a perceived bond if one is not found. CONNECTING also means the other person "feels" like they care about their flourishing. They do legitimately care about the flourishing of those around them.

INFLUENCERS inspire people and are always on the lookout for new ideas.
INFLUENCERS are enthusiastic about a shared vision.
INFLUENCERS are aware of culture, art, literature, and the quality of presentation.
INFLUENCERS are constantly looking for new opportunities.
INFLUENCERS tend to be easily frustrated and may not take rejection well.
INFLUENCERS whine, manipulate and hang their heads in shame to sway you.
INFLUENCERS often make great martyrs.

Learning: For INFLUENCERS, collaborative learning is the most efficient process of learning. The more discussion in an open forum, the better for learning.

The Collaborative Conversation style of learning is a high-energy, fun, and team-oriented experience. The MOTIVATOR of this learning style is RELATIONAL UNITY.

INFLUENCERS are not interested in data and information sessions. For them, research and other solitary tasks are boring and frustrating. Having to sit through long lectures without being able to interact kills their attention span. They can make decisions and think more deeply by conversing with other people.

INFLUENCERS prefer open discussions, envisioning the future, estimating and exploring possibilities and opportunities, and intimate one-on-one topics; cooperation is required.

The **SOLUTIONARY**

SOLUTIONS catalyzed BY UNDERSTANDING

SOLUTIONS are the SOLUTIONARY'S MOTIVATOR. A SOLUTIONARY observes, ponders, wonders, and offers solutions to problems. The SOLUTIONARY creates.

SOLUTIONS (Pertaining to the SOLUTIONARY): The developing of solutions, regardless of the behavior and emotions of others. The crafting of elegant and elaborate solutions feels rewarding.

UNDERSTANDING (Pertaining to the SOLUTIONARY): Seeing the ways things work, as well as how various decisions and factors will affect outcomes; then knowing how to deal with them.

SOLUTIONARIES are problem solvers.

A SOLUTIONARY's strength comes from their ability to overcome any obstacle they face.

SOLUTIONARIES enjoy creating systems that ensure the continuation of their work.

SOLUTIONARIES do not make good implementers because they strive for perfection; before acting.

SOLUTIONARIES develop new products and integrate systems to solve production and administrative problems.

SOLUTIONARIES are often, very stubborn individuals.

SOLUTIONARIES can sometimes deny facts, challenge the validity and relevance of data, refuse to take action, or even quit.

SOLUTIONARIES are often accusing.

Learning: For SOLUTIONARIES, learning occurs through observation (evaluation) and then pondering, puzzling, and thinking through all they have observed; and then the development of and presentation of solutions.

These people like to have complex situations to evaluate. Complex and difficult problems intrigue them. Their self-esteem is greatly affected by the size, importance, and difficulty of the problems they solve. If they are presented with problems they are not allowed to solve or are not able to solve, they will become very frustrated.

SOLUTIONARIES have a difficult time learning from spontaneous, high-energy exercises that do not give them a chance to become familiar with the process and environment or the time they need to work out a good solution (response).

Problems that are easy to solve shouldn't be given to them. Do not give them answers. They will develop their own. They should not be asked to perform repetitive tasks or simply transform numbers into different formats.

What's really happening with our NEXUS Design?

Using the PROFILE SCORE of each individual, NEXUS Design Blends are developed. As a divinely-designed individual, you can gain a clear understanding of who you are with the blend that is presented to you. By showing the motivational DRIVERS, the NEXUS Design Approach provides insight into the motivational structure of a person and helps them better understand their motivation. By using the NEXUS Design Approach, we also take into consideration the contribution the individual is motivated to make. The primary contribution that each individual makes is expressed in their skills and talents. In addition, the NEXUS Motivational Blend profile reveals another characteristic as well; the negative conflict strategy mechanism.

Here's how it works:

Each NEXUS Motivator is Catalyzed by a NEXUS Ethic. Individuals who feel solid and confident in their NEXUS Ethic have the freedom to contribute to their team, their family, and society, simply by exercising their NEXUS Motivator.

This NEXUS Ethic works like a dimmer switch for the lights in a room. Whenever the dimmer switch is "closed," there is no way that a person can express the Motivator at that time. When the dimmer switch is completely open, the Motivator "light" can be expressed entirely without fear.

As the dimmer switch is turned down, the NEXUS Motivator's "strength" becomes weaker, and the person becomes more anxious, exaggerating the NEXUS Motivator more. Trying to hold onto the strategies they dictate, they try to keep the NEXUS Motivator alive. Nevertheless, as the individual loses their connection with the NEXUS Ethic, they come closer to confronting their primary fear. In a situation where the person experiences their primary fear, that mechanism triggers a person to change from their positive strategy to their negative strategy.

If the person consciously or subconsciously decides to shift to an alternate NEXUS Motivator Strategy before experiencing the primary fear, a choice can be made and the positive strategies of the new NEXUS Motivator can be implemented. The negative strategy of the person's secondary NEXUS Motivator Strategy will come into play if they shift to the secondary NEXUS Motivator Strategy after the fear line has been crossed. This leads to people experiencing the individual's negative and momentarily effective 'dark side' at this point.

Six NEXUS Design Blends

Each NEXUS “Type strategy” competes with every other NEXUS “Type strategy.” This is the origin of the conflict, even on highly functional teams. We often feel this internal conflict; within ourselves. There is a guarantee of strategy divergence and a sense of priority when people with strong dominance in all four NEXUS Types get together.

Each of the four Types share common values with each other, such as the following:

OBJECTIVE

DRIVER and STABILIZER >>> PROGRESS and INFORMATION

- The combination of PROGRESS and INFORMATION creates the expectation that all energy and work will yield positive results; both tangible and measurable.
- A conflict arises between PROGRESS and INFORMATION because they are interested in determining how much energy is needed and where it should be used. There is no fear of trial and error in the world of PROGRESS. INFORMATION does not like to waste anything or leave out any details.

INSTINCTIVE

DRIVER and INFLUENCER >>> PROGRESS and RELATIONAL UNITY

- The combination of PROGRESS and RELATIONAL UNITY creates spontaneity, energy, intuitive decisions, leaps of faith, and risk-taking. The INSTINCTIVE blend occurs when PROGRESS and RELATIONAL UNITY are dominant.
- A conflict arises between PROGRESS and RELATIONAL UNITY since both Types want to determine who works with whom, what gets done, and how the team feels. PROGRESS wants direct commands and directed energy. RELATIONAL UNITY desires shared energy and enthusiasm based on mutual respect, with requests for help and invitations to participate in creating beautiful outcomes.

VISIONARY

INFLUENCER and SOLUTIONARY >>> RELATIONAL UNITY and UNDERSTANDING

- The combination of RELATIONAL UNITY and UNDERSTANDING creates a synergy of imagining what might be. In other words, how to create something new and the satisfaction of brainstorming and sharing ideas and visions. Creativity is shared and encouraged.
- A conflict arises between RELATIONAL UNITY and UNDERSTANDING because both strive for control over long-term vision; the form, function, and feel of systems and processes ultimately, control over the creative process.

CONSCIOUS

STABILIZER and SOLUTIONARY >>> INFORMATION and UNDERSTANDING

- The combination of INFORMATION and UNDERSTANDING leads to the need to think and reason. The Conscious Blend refrains from making decisions without thoroughly examining information and applying it to reason. They consider intuition unreliable and risky.
- A conflict arises between INFORMATION and UNDERSTANDING because both want to control the analysis or flow of logic. They are trying to decide whether there is enough information to make an informed decision and which conclusion is right.

EMPATHETIC

INFLUENCER and STABILIZER >>> RELATIONAL UNITY and INFORMATION

- The combination of RELATIONAL UNITY and INFORMATION creates a desire to work together as a team, wanting an active and functioning community. A cohesive community must fulfill its prime missions. RELATIONAL UNITY strongly desires to create and understand the purpose of the relationship. This is manifested where there is mutual understanding. INFORMATION ensures the peacefulness of the environment and the safety of people, as well as sufficient resources for long-term survival and vision.
- A conflict arises between RELATIONAL UNITY and INFORMATION when there are no clear directives that serve both the unity as well as the information. INFORMATION will want to do what's best for preservation and logic. RELATIONAL UNITY will want to do what's best from the context of relational unity. In other words, if it benefits only one person yet causes harm to the community, there will be an intense battle of motivations.

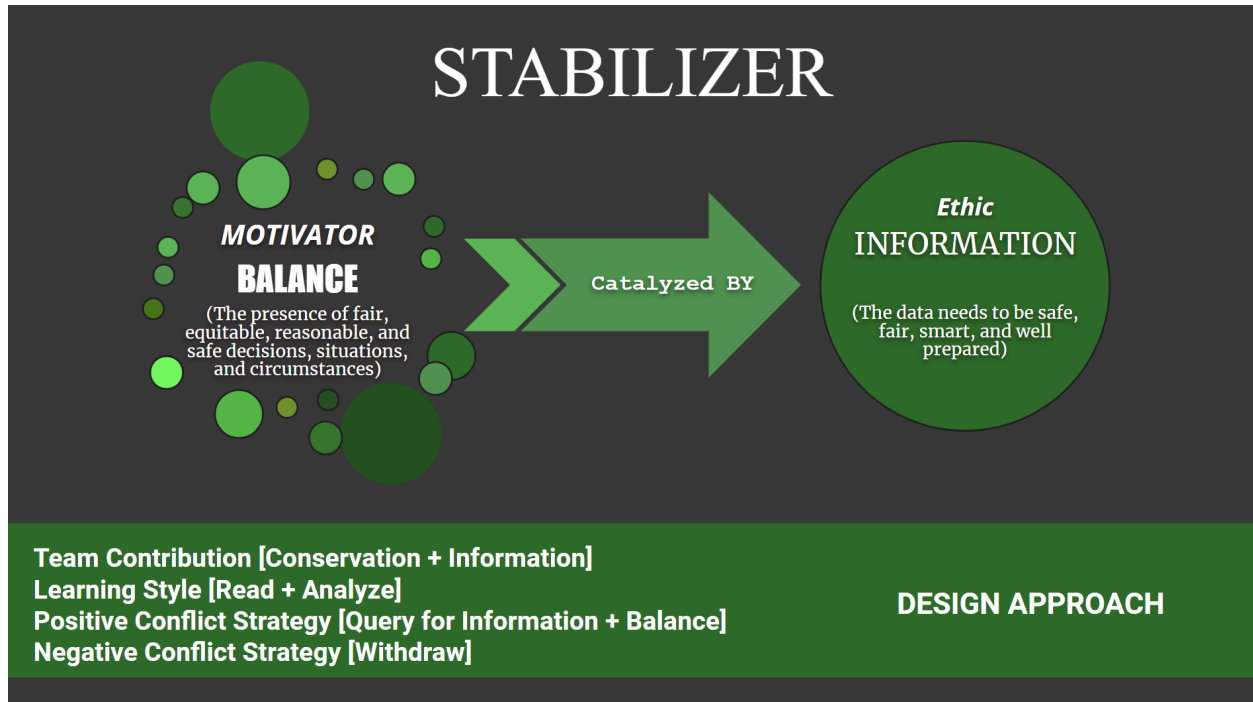
INDEPENDENT

DRIVER and SOLUTIONARY >>> PROGRESS and UNDERSTANDING

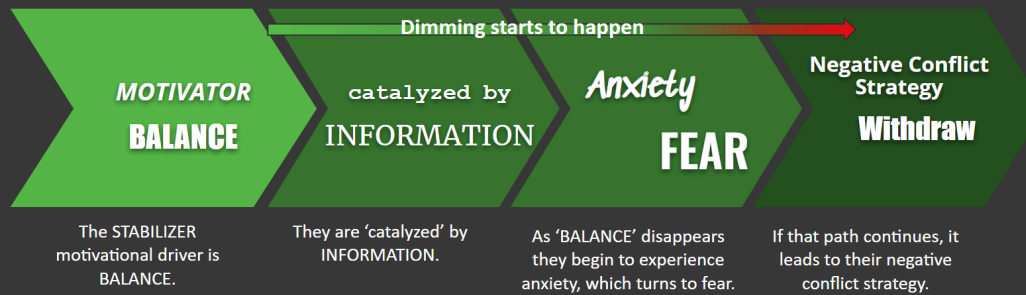
- They will figure out what they need to do and get it done. The problem-solving and energy of others are not required to get it done. The combination of PROGRESS and UNDERSTANDING creates self-sufficiency and the ability to become independent.
- A conflict between POWER and WISDOM will arise because neither party wants to give up control of the process. POWER wants very little, and they want it fast. However, WISDOM requires many processes and a reasonable pace.

The **STABILIZER** BALANCE catalyzed by INFORMATION

BALANCE is the STABILIZER'S MOTIVATOR. STABILIZERS gather facts and information. The STABILIZER reads and analyzes.



STABILIZER

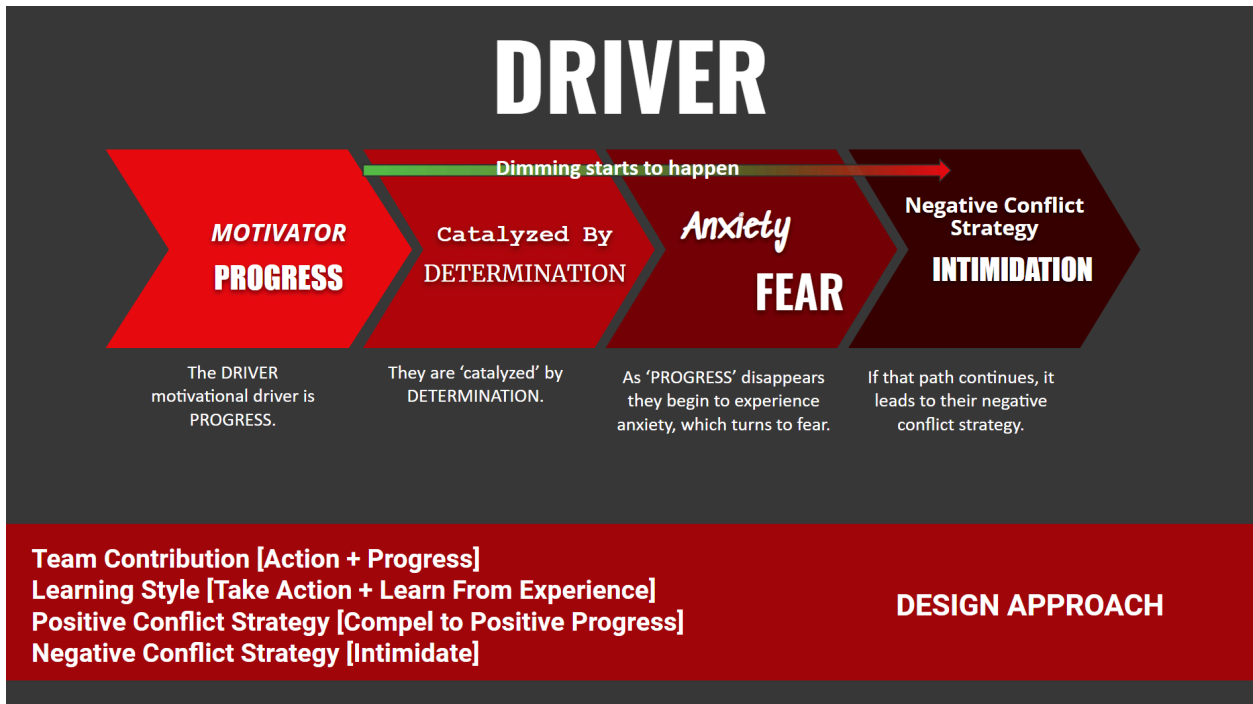
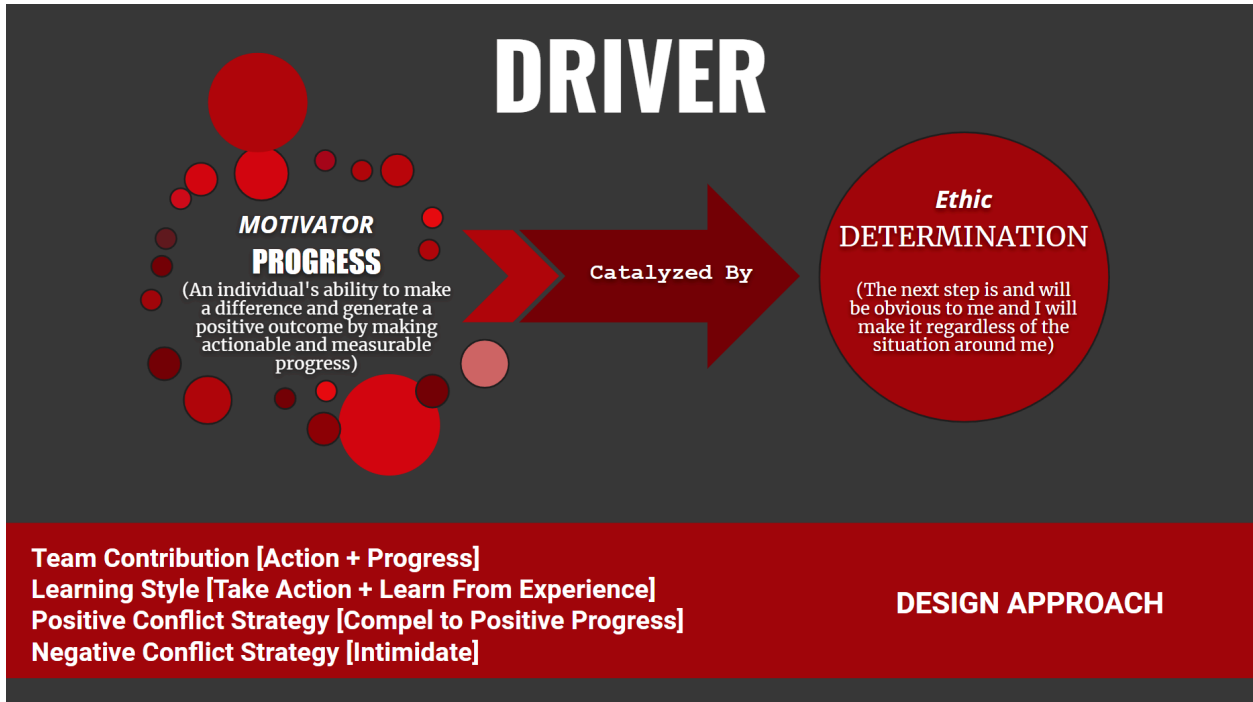


Team Contribution [Conservation + Information]
Learning Style [Read + Analyze]
Positive Conflict Strategy [Query for Information + Balance]
Negative Conflict Strategy [Withdraw]

DESIGN APPROACH

The **DRIVER** PROGRESS catalyzed by DETERMINATION

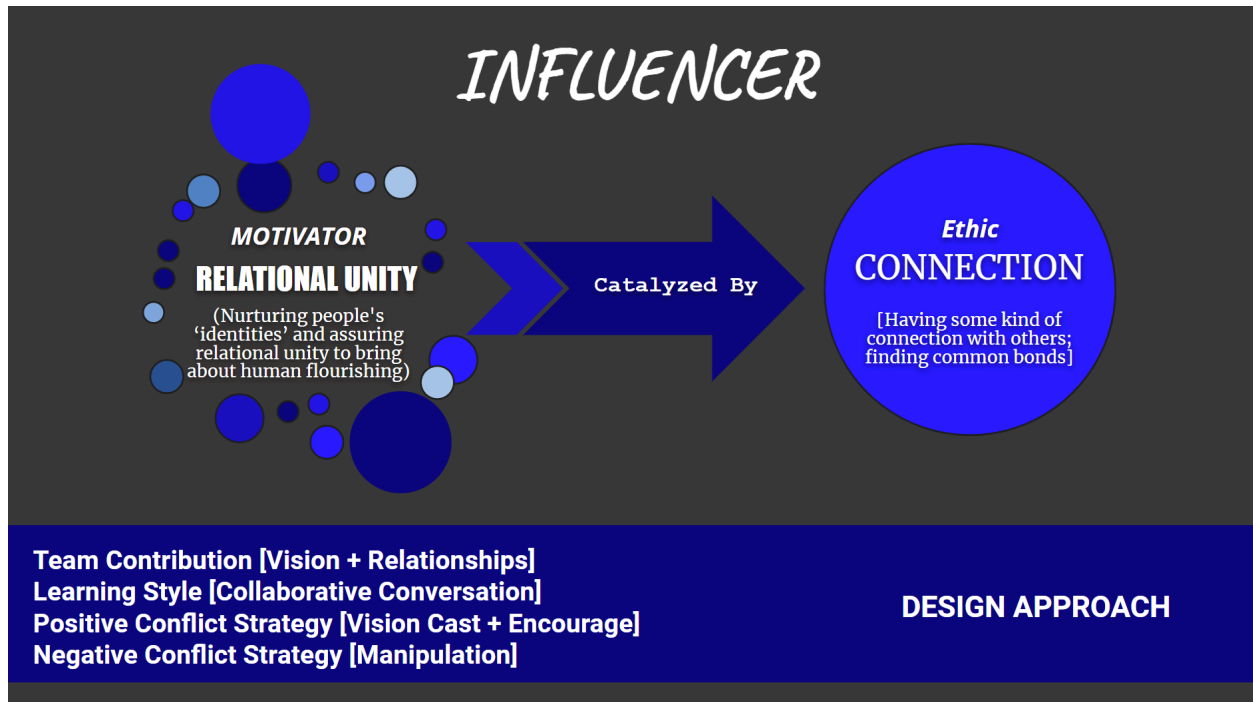
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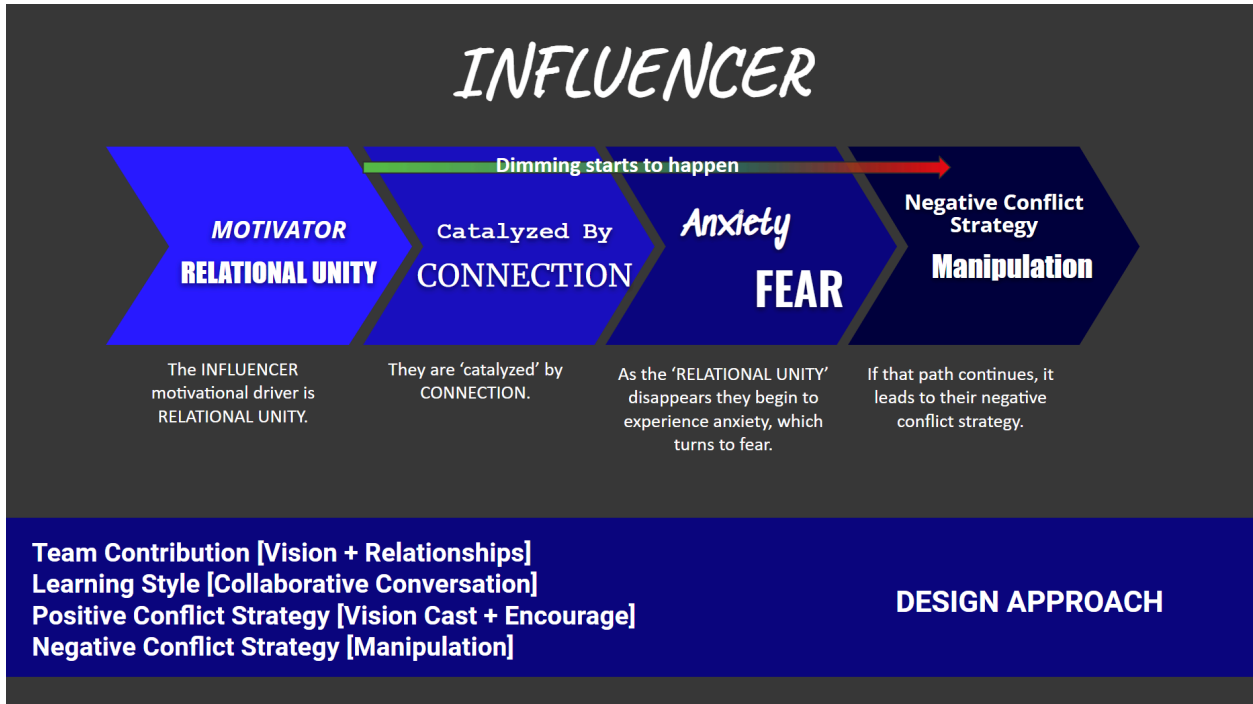


The **INFLUENCER**

RELATIONAL UNITY catalyzed by CONNECTION

RELATIONAL UNITY is the INFLUENCER'S MOTIVATOR. INFLUENCERS need collaborative conversation to find alignment in truth. The INFLUENCER wants to connect with everyone and have everyone connect.



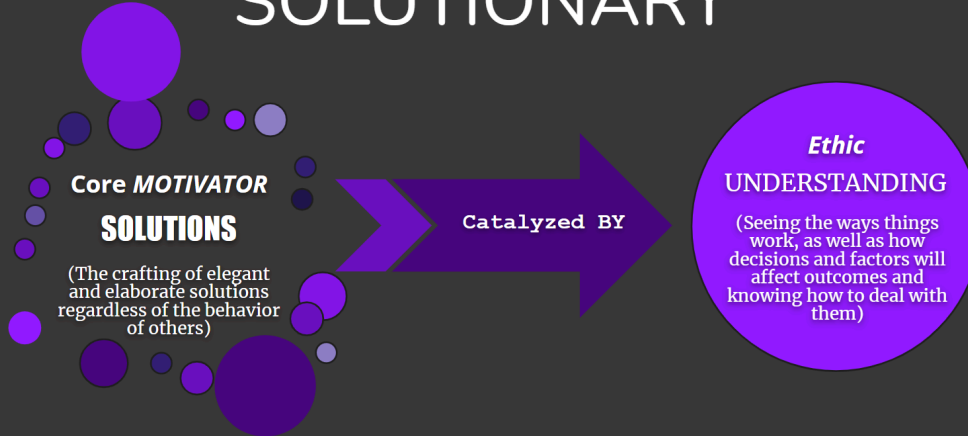


The SOLUTIONARY

SOLUTIONS catalyzed BY UNDERSTANDING

SOLUTIONS are the SOLUTIONARY'S MOTIVATOR. A SOLUTIONARY observes, ponders, wonders, and offers solutions to problems. The SOLUTIONARY creates.

SOLUTIONARY



Team Contribution [Assessment + Solutions]
 Learning Style [Assess + Solve]
 Positive Conflict Strategy [Listen + Inquisitive Assessment]
 Negative Conflict Strategy [Deconstructing]

DESIGN APPROACH

SOLUTIONARY



Team Contribution [Assessment + Solutions]
 Learning Style [Assess + Solve]
 Positive Conflict Strategy [Listen + Inquisitive Assessment]
 Negative Conflict Strategy [Deconstructing]

DESIGN APPROACH

To learn more, and for additional resources please don't hesitate to reach out!

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