

The 14 Archetypes of Service

The 14 Archetypes of Service – Which one am I?

- The Altruist – I Give, I Serve, I Protect
- The Explorer – I Seek, I Discover, I Excel
- The Artist – I Reveal, I Design, I Create
- The Nurturer – I Share, I Care, I Give
- The Mentor – I Teach, I Guide, I Inspire
- The Worker – I Build, I Work, I Maintain
- The Activist – I Believe, I Voice, I Change
- The Collaborator / Producer – I Enhance, I Contribute, I Facilitate
- The Leader – I Lead, I Guide, I Direct
- The Problem Solver – I Organize, I Resolve, I Explain
- The Performer – I Express, I Entertain, I Uplift
- The Healer – I Heal, I Enhance, I Renew
- The Entrepreneur – I Make It Happen, I Succeed, I Develop
- The Techie – I Tweak, I Kluge, I Fix

1. The Altruist - I Give, I Serve, I Protect

The Altruist lives to serve others, often to the exclusion of self. The pure Altruist can be seen in the life of Mother Teresa. With no thought of self, she dedicated her life to the street people and lepers of Calcutta. She lived for them, to make their lives better, to relieve them of the pain and suffering that she saw and ultimately felt so strongly that she had to respond to. The Gift she had to Give coincided with the form of giving that most perfectly coincided with the way she need to give it.

Other Altruists; Jimmy Carter,

2. The Explorer - I Seek, I Discover, I Excel

The Explorer is motivated by the call of what the rest of us refer to as the unknown. More often than not, to the Explorer, it is not the unknown, because they already know or sense the reality of what they are seeking to “discover”. To them, it is as though it already exists and only needs to be proven to the rest of us. They seek to demonstrate its existence through discovering it’s location, materiality, laws or applications. Columbus knew that he would not sail off the end of the earth. Einstein sensed Relativity long before he proved it theoretically, Freud was fully aware of the existence of the Unconscious. Knowing or sensing something is the very element that drives Explorers to seek and uncover their discoveries because inherent in this “knowing” is the promise of revealing all that they do not yet no about it.

Other Explorers; Stephen Hawkins, Jonas Salk

3. The Artist - I Reveal, I Design, I Create

The Artist is someone who is compelled to reveal what calls to them from beyond the material world. They do not care to prove it’s reality only to capture it in a form that speaks to the rest of us. They do not seek agreement from others as to it’s validity, reality or value, only to capture it in an aesthetic way (through the senses) that allows others to experience it for themselves.

Beethoven was haunted by the music that filled his soul and sought to capture it at all costs.

Other Artists; Mozart, Picasso, Van Gogh, and Michelangelo

4. The Nurturer – I Share, I Care, I Give The Nurturer is primarily motivated by the need to care for people places and things. Nurturers are aware of the fragile nature of human life and do everything they can to make the way smooth for those in need of care. They believe that if they love, care and support enough they can overcome any obstacle and solve any problem. Though doctors, nurses and mothers usually exhibit The Nurturer archetype, a Football coach who is usually best served by the Mentor or Problem Solver Archetype could excel as a coach with a primary Archetype of Nurturer and a secondary archetype of Worker. Nurturers are motivated by feelings of sympathy, empathy and agape; their every action is infused with sharing, caring and giving.

Nurturers might include teachers, hospice workers, nannies and volunteers or they may show up in any occupation where they can give care and support.

5. The Mentor – I Teach, I Guide, I Inspire

The Mentor is someone who's greatest joy comes from assisting others to grow, transform or excel at who they are and what they do. They are often teachers, coaches, lecturers. Mentors are highly skilled at any or all of the following qualities; cultivating, developing, inspiring, directing. A great mentor is one who recognizes the type and nature of talent exhibited by their charges and designs a clear and direct program to help them attain it. Though they themselves may have a very highly developed Gift in their field, they never fully enjoy that Gift until they find a way to help others maximize their own. When we consider the commonly held belief that great talents rarely make great teachers. In the light of one's Archetype of Service it makes sense that the Archetypes that drive one to the top of their field, Forerunner or Leader, usually have nothing to do with the patience, humility or insight that distinguish The Mentor. Basketball offers us two excellent examples of this paradigm in Phil Jackson and Pat Riley both adequate as professional basketball players but truly exceptional as Coaches.

Other Mentors; Deepak Chopra, Ken Blanchard,

6. The Worker - I Build, I Work, I Maintain

The Worker's an individual who actually finds their greatest joy in making others dreams and visions come into manifestation, they are the unsung heroes, the team player, the builders. They live for "a job well done". They can do this by investing their physical labor, emotional support and continuity and mental stamina and stick-to-itiveness. They know that they make it happen and that their role is pivotal. Without them the world, as we know it would not exist. A job well done, a dream completed,

7. The Activist – I Believe, I Voice, I Change

The Activist is a person with a cause that they feel so strongly about that they are willing to fight, oftentimes even if it costs them their health, their family or their lives, to change the way society deals with it or perceives it. Mahatma Gandhi was compelled, at all costs, to eliminate the tyrannical rule and treatment by the British over his countrymen.

8. The Collaborator (Producer) - I Enhance, I Contribute, I Facilitate

The Collaborator is an individual who serves by creating, enhancing and facilitating collective undertakings. They have a deep need to be an initiating or contributing part of a vision, journey or enterprise and are highly skilled in supporting and enhancing the work of others. When a Collaborator is involved in a project or undertaking it is likely that it will become far greater than the sum of its parts. Collaborators are great traveling partners. They have an enormous respect and admiration for others skills, love the journey involved in collectively working-it-out and naturally understand how to enhance the efforts of others and the finished product. Collaborators are often referred to as team players. In the sports world Magic Johnson was famous for collaborating with his teammates, sharing the ball and the limelight, and enhancing the overall effort of the team. He also took it as his job, his function, to produce wins. The Producer is also a Collaborator who fulfills a leadership function. It is a person who creates opportunities and situations for others to give the Gift they have to give, gathers the specific members of the team and then collaborates with them to achieve it. A producer looks into the world, sees a need or problem and generates the circumstances that can fulfill that need and/or solve that problem.

9. The Leader - I Lead, I Guide, I Direct

The Leader is an individual who serves others by divining and defining a direction, stepping out in front, and motivating others to follow. Napoleon was the preeminent leader. He had a vision, inspired his countrymen to believe that it was a noble and important one and then, from atop his horse led the charge; compelling a nation to follow. When this Archetype is married to that of; Activist you have a Martin Luther King, in conjunction with The Worker archetype you have Caesar Chavez, and fused with The Explorer, Marco Polo.

Other Leaders; Bill Clinton, Winston Churchill, Jack Welch (CEO of GM), Joan of Arc.

10. The Problem Solver - I Organize, I Resolve, I Explain

The Problem Solver lives to help others' lives, dreams, businesses and the earth itself, function at the highest, most economical and most efficient level. They can look at a situation and find an elegant, direct and synergistic solution and then negotiate the obstacles that inhibit the desired result. This is a form of service most often exhibited by designers, managers and lieutenants. Henry Kissinger was one the most notable Problem Solvers in recent history. As Nixon's "lieutenant" he actually designed and negotiated the solutions to situations that The Leader, Nixon, focused the Nations attention upon.

11. The Performer – I Express, I Entertain, I Uplift

The Performer lives to engage, seduce and ultimately inspire. They are most often out front, casting a spell, weaving a web, delivering an immersive experience. They are masters at invoking feelings and provoking the widest possible range of emotions. They are gifted at sensing an audience or individuals The Performer may also take a more passive role as the Muse. In this case their performance is their very presence, the way they carry themselves, move, or embody a Charlie Chaplin was a performer on every level. Capable of inspiring every emotion, reflect every state of mind and depicting the entire human condition in all it's greatness and foibles. There are also passive Performers like a muse, whose very presence, the way they carry themselves. Move and act, expresses, engages and inspires those they touch.

12. The Healer – I Heal, I Enhance, I Renew

The Healer is an individual who is most comfortable when helping others through their healing process. The joy is palpable. Healers are motivated by a powerful need to assist others to “get better” or “be better.” They are often times (though not always) deeply empathetic to others’ pain. Healers seek to lessen or alleviate pain and suffering and aim to bring ease to disease. They are most alive when dealing with life and death (physical, mental, emotional, spiritual) situations. Healers can be physicians, masseuses, teachers, priests and therapists, but they can also be café owners, salespeople or entrepreneurs.

13. The Entrepreneur – I Make It Happen, I Succeed, I Develop

The Entrepreneur is an individual who takes an idea or already existing product or service through all the phases required to bring it into the marketplace and thus into the world. Entrepreneurs are gifted at recognizing and capitalizing on a need and even more importantly to do what it takes to fulfill that need. Though other of the archetypes are good at recognizing a need none are really consummately equipped to find a way to fulfill that need and capitalize on it. In the past people with this skill were called businessmen or capitalists but the skill has become more refined as the marketplace has become more sophisticated. For those individuals that may have the skill of discovering ground-breaking ideas or creating extraordinary art or devices, if they do not have the archetype of the Entrepreneur or can not find someone who has it to collaborate with, it is unlikely that you will have ever heard of them or enjoyed their creations. Excellent examples of Entrepreneur’s are; Edison, Bill Gates, Steve Jobs and the inventor of the Pet Rock.

14. The Techie – I Tweak, I Kluge, I Fix

Techies are people who love to figure stuff out. Whether it’s mechanical, chemical, electronic, scientific or a mental construct (software or a mathematical problem) their greatest joy is to go in with a simple intention, such as; figure it out or find a better way to do it and then without a map, model or any other itinerary, fix, unravel or recreate it in their own unique way. These people are metaphorically walking around playing with a Rubric cube all of the time. They are tenacious, crafty, out-of-the box, unrestricted and not easily taken down by the seemingly impossible, esoteric or not as yet commonly understood.