



Connectedness®

THEME DESCRIPTION

Things happen for a reason. You are sure of it. You are sure of it because in your soul you know that we are all connected. Yes, we are individuals, responsible for our own judgments and in possession of our own free will, but nonetheless we are part of something larger. Some may call it the collective unconscious. Others may label it spirit or life force. But whatever your word of choice, you gain confidence from knowing that we are not isolated from one another or from the earth and the life on it. This feeling of Connectedness implies certain responsibilities. If we are all part of a larger picture, then we must not harm others because we will be harming ourselves. We must not exploit because we will be exploiting ourselves. Your awareness of these responsibilities creates your value system. You are considerate, caring and accepting. Certain of the unity of humankind, you are a bridge builder for people of different cultures. Sensitive to the invisible hand, you can give others comfort that there is a purpose beyond our humdrum lives. The exact articles of your faith will depend on your upbringing and your culture, but your faith is strong. It sustains you and your close friends in the face of life's mysteries.

POWER AND EDGE

People strong in the Connectedness theme build bridges between people and groups, showing them how to relate to and rely on each other. They help others find meaning in the unpredictability of the world around them, providing a sense of comfort and stability in the face of uncertainty. Putting it simply, their ability to "connect the dots" from the past, present and future can give others perspective, guidance and hope.

CONNECTEDNESS IN ACTION

Words that might describe a person with dominant Connectedness talents:

integrating
seeking
spiritual
comforting
perceptive
mystical
philosophic
counseling
listening

ACTION ITEMS

- Consider roles that ask you to listen and to counsel. You can become adept at helping other people see connections and purpose in everyday occurrences.
- Share specific examples that help your friends and colleagues see how their actions affect others.
- Intentionally set aside a few minutes away from the action for an opportunity to quietly contemplate. This will give you a better chance to see patterns and identify adjustments that can increase the effectiveness of the group you are working with.
- Explore specific ways to expand your sense of connection, such as starting a book club, attending a retreat or joining an organization that puts Connectedness into practice.
- Within your organization, help your colleagues understand how their efforts fit into the larger picture. You can be a leader in building teams and helping people feel important.
- Help those around you cope with unpredictable and unexplainable events. In particular, you can help people find meaning, even in sickness and death. Your perspective will bring comfort.
- Partner with someone with a strong Communication theme. This person can help you with the words you need to describe vivid examples of connection in the real world.
- Don't spend too much time attempting to persuade others to see the world as a linked web. Be aware that your sense of connection is intuitive. If others don't share your intuition, rational arguments will not persuade them.