

Safe People Are

- People who react to you in a different way than those who injured you. Use your memory to tell the difference.
- People, who, over time, have a loving track record. See if their walk matches their talk.
- People who can be observed from some emotional distance. Take small risks in vulnerability before taking bigger risks.
- People with the ability to accept imperfections in others. This refers to the difference between those who love the outside and those who love the inner self.
- People who are no stranger to pain, yet are recovering. Those who have suffered spiritually and emotionally can identify with developmental injuries.
- People who are aware of their own deficits. Those who know their unfinished parts are more likely to be safe with the unfinished parts of others.
- People who have truth without condemnation. It's easier to entrust our weaknesses to those who love us, and who will speak the truth in love
- People who have grace without license. Attaching to others who see God's grace as leading to greater responsibility helps us to experience grace appropriately.
- People who bear good fruit in your life. Ask yourself if your relationship with this person has made you more or less loving and responsible.

Break the dysfunctional family rules of "don't talk, don't trust, don't feel", by actively seeking a confessional relationship. Generally, a "safe" person will give you permission (when you can't give it to yourself) to be human. Safety is measured by our ability to be who we really are with a particular person or in a certain setting - a place where we can talk about our fears, our feelings, our experiences without being judged or shamed.

There are safe people and safe places. To find them you must take a risk. Share; check; share. God created us not to be dependent or independent, but interdependent. Don't expect perfection from yourself or from others, but look for a realistic "good enough."

Whatever is unconfessed is beyond the reach of healing. The isolated injury that stays hidden feels "bad." The injury that is connected feels loved.

*From **Hiding From Love** by Dr. John Townsend*

Color Code - Blue

Strengths

As an individual

- Sees life as a serious endeavor
- Sincere and emotionally deep
- Analytically oriented
- High achiever

Limitations

As an individual

- Highly emotional
- Smug and self-righteous
- Controlling and/or envious of others' success when too easily obtained
- Strong perfecting and performance orientation

Color Code - Red

Strengths

As an individual

- Excels with logical thinking
- Committed to a productive lifestyle
- Dynamic and direct
- Thrives on independence
- Natural leader
- Highly resourceful (strong survivor)
- Creative in crisis

Limitations

As an individual

- Promotes turmoil and conflict when a personal goal is to be gained
- Rationalizes and denies own failings
- Always right
- Often arrogant and defiant of authority
- Inpatient with others

Color Code - White

Strengths

As an individual

- Quiet, reflective, and peaceful
- Sincere and genuine lifestyle
- Patient with others
- Blends into all situations

Limitations

As an individual

- Unresponsive or not openly excited about experiences
- Has problems becoming intimate
- Bashful and unsure of self
- Often lazy and unwilling to take responsibility to self
- Resists making commitments

Color Code - Yellow

Strengths

As an individual

- Highly optimistic (rarely depressed)
- Likes self and accepts others easily
- Loves to volunteer for opportunities
- Sees life as an experience to be enjoyed
- Adventurous and daring

Limitations

As an individual

- Needs to look good socially (high priority)
- Irresponsible and unreliable
- Self-centered and egotistical
- Superficial and mostly interested in a good time
- Exaggerates successes and omits unpleasant truths
- Unable to confront or face issues