

Volume 1, Day 14 — PERSONALITY

"That they may be one, even as we are one." John 17:22

Personality is that unique, peculiar thing that is meant when we speak of ourselves as distinct from everyone else. Our personality is too mysterious for us to grasp. Personality is like an island. We know nothing about the great depths underneath, consequently we cannot estimate ourselves. We begin by thinking that we can, but we come to realize that there is only one Being Who understands us, and that is our Creator.

Personality is the characteristic of the spiritual man as individuality is the characteristic of the natural man. Our Lord can never be defined in terms of individuality and independence, but only in terms of personality, "I and My Father are one." Personality merges, and you only reach your real identity when you are merged with another person.

When love, or the Spirit of God strikes a man, he is transformed, he no longer insists upon his separate individual independence. Our Lord never spoke in terms of individuality, of having his own way or his isolated position, but in terms of personality - "that they may be one, even as We are one." When you give up your right to yourself to God, the true nature of your personality immediately merges with God. Jesus Christ emancipates the personality, and the individuality is transfigured. The transfiguring element is deeply genuine love in personal devotion to Jesus. Love is the outpouring of one personality in fellowship with another personality.

My Utmost for His Highest - Oswald Chambers