
Our personality is Shaped Most by the Way in Which We Think

Week 6: The General Personality (Part One)

Posted: 8/12/12 by T. George Homsher, M.Ed.

It's true that we are what we think. This is why it's important to monitor closely what is coming into our mind in the negative or evil sense. What is fascinating, as well, is that the way in which we think or the style of our thinking is a powerful tool to shape our general personality. The individual personality is very complex (Psalm 139:14 KJV) and has multiple facets like the way one thinks, how one behaves, their level of emotions, etc. Of all the facets to a person's personality the way one thinks forms and impacts the overall personality more than any other. From the way in which a person thinks comes a general personality which can help us understand ourselves and others more simply by removing a big chunk of the complexity.

There are two ways that an individual thinks. There's the pragmatic (black and white) way and there is the insightful (all the colors) way. These two ways of thinking bring about the pragmatic general personality and the insightful general personality. Everyone, or almost everyone, has both of these styles of thinking and personalities in their mind (wow, we're starting to see why we're so complex).

When it comes to determining which general personality one has it comes down to the percentages. For example, a person is said to have a more pragmatic personality (not an insightful personality) if they are in the 51% or higher in the pragmatic style of thinking (and 49% or lower in the insightful way of thinking). This is because the higher percentage above 50% in the personality creates a stronger presence over the other type of personality; the more of something wins out.

“A, B, C / 1, 2, 3 /Bing, Bing- Hah, Hah.” ~ Howard Blandau

(in playfully describing the pragmatic individual)

Week 7: The General Personality (Part Two)

Posted: 8/20/12 by T. George Homsher, M.Ed.

The differences between the pragmatic and insightful general personalities are quite extensive. As a consequence, the more an individual is closer to the 50% of both personalities the more conflict within the person. The 51% insightful and 49% pragmatic individual is going to have a tough time figuring out which way he wants to go; he's going to be pulled on both sides seeking to have the upper hand. Fortunately, the vast majority of the population in America is in the 60 to 80% of the pragmatic or insightful personality. There still is some conflict within the different personalities at these percentages, but the conflict within is much less.

As we can see below there is much difference between the two personalities within us.

The pragmatic general personality (pragmatic individual) has many characteristics, here are some of them: Concrete and scientifically analytical in thinking, less feeling, calculating, organizing, practical, less social, and more prone to look outside themselves.

The insightful general personality (insightful individual) has many characteristics as well, here are some of them: Non-scientifically analytical in thinking, more feeling, spontaneous, lacking organization, idea-oriented, more social, and more prone to look within themselves.

Question for fun for next week: Is America made up of more pragmatic or more insightful individuals?

Three to One

Week 8: The General Personality (Part Three)

Posted: 8/27/12 by T. George Homsher, M.Ed.

Let's begin by answering the quiz from last week. Renowned psychologist Howard Blandau believed that there are 75% of pragmatic individuals in America to 25% of insightful individuals in America.

What made America great from the beginning were Christian and Non-Christian individual's that were filled with morality and that had brilliant pragmatic thoughts to develop the greatest legal, political and economic experiment in world history.

What kept America great going forward from its birth was the implementation of this great pragmatic thinking into institutions. This was coupled with an incredible work ethic by so many pragmatic people that led to incredible wealth and power along the way.

Unfortunately, the greatness of America, as we all know, is at a crossroad. Ironically, this negative turn is because of pragmatic individuals; not the hero pragmatists of yesteryear, but a new kind of pragmatist. This Saddusaic and Pharisaic new pragmatism is at the heart of the moral destruction of the great institutions that made this country the light of all nations.

One of the desperate needs to help save America is for pragmatic Christian or Non-Christian individuals of good character to step forward into the legal, political, economic, etc. institutions of America to be the salt of the earth (Matthew 5:13 KJV). They can become the new heroes of yesteryear, and help save the future generations of America.

“The individual 'general personality' has the ability to stretch, because it's not rigid.”
~ T. George Homsher

Week 9: The General Personality (Part Four)

Posted: 9/2/12 by T. George Homsher, M.Ed.

When we study the general personality we are struck by a fascinating thing—it's not set in stone. It can stretch, but like a rubber band it does have its limitations. This flexibility seems to be because God didn't want us to be rigid and like everyone else, and He wanted us to be able to handle stress.

We can look at this situation by the following example. Let's take the case of Cindy. Cindy's natural general personality is 70% pragmatic and 30% insightful. However, when needed, it can stretch up to 10 percentage points where it becomes 60% pragmatic and 40% insightful. Many people's general personality can stretch up to a maximum of 10 percentage points--many individuals are under 10% of flexibility.

This is important because it helps the individual to be able to cope or to be flexible with changing or stressful circumstances in their lives. If Cindy was working in a place of business she could help the business out by becoming more idea-oriented or marketing-oriented (with her 40% insightful general personality) if her business needed her to be. She wouldn't feel comfortable doing it consistently for many months, but if the need arose short-term she could meet it quite well.

On the other hand, if Cindy's place of business wanted her to become even more detailed and precise this would bring about a lot of anxiety, because she would be stretched to say 80% pragmatic and 20% insightful taking her the opposite way than her general personality could go.

Vocations

Week 10: The General Personality (Part Five)

Posted: 9/9/12 by T. George Homsher, M.Ed.

Matching one's vocation with their general personality is very important as many a person has ended up in a job or career that wasn't suited for them. The avoidance of this could help an individual stay away from a lot of heartache. One of the main reasons that people do not choose the correct vocation is that they're trying to be someone else. If they are pragmatic they want to be insightful, if they are insightful they want to be pragmatic. We can only be who God has made us to be--if we can embrace this we will be at peace.

There are many more vocations for the pragmatic individual than the insightful individual. Here's a list of some of them: teacher, computer programmer, computer analyst, construction worker, police officer, medical doctor, radio talk show host, hairstylist, manager, financial analyst, financial consultant, bus driver, automotive technician, engineer, secretary, scientist, art museum director, lab technician, nurse, truck driver, florist, film director, laborer, sports play by play announcer, theologian, writer, etc.

Here are some vocations for the insightful individual: salesman, marketing analyst, psychologist, sports color commentator, interior decorator, writer, youth pastor, actor, artist, business entrepreneur, landscape designer, customer service representative, commercial creator, guidance counselor, architect, songwriter, etc.