

“Understanding Personalities”

Myers-Briggs

“For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴ I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. ¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place. When I was woven together in the depths of the earth, ¹⁶ your eyes saw my unformed body. All the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be.”

Psalm 139:13-16 (NIV)

- Our personality is from God.
 - * God created each individual
 - * Everyone is fearfully and wonderfully made.

Extroverts (E)

1. Get their batteries charged by being with people
2. Constantly pulled to the outer world
3. Think out loud
4. Ask, “How can I affect this?”
5. *Summarize what you hear them saying.*

E vs. I = Energy

Introverts (I)

1. Get their batteries charged by being alone
2. Try to understand the world before experiencing it
3. Listen more than they talk
4. Prefer small groups and one-on-one
5. Ask, “How does this affect me?”
6. *Give them space to share.*

Sensors (S)

1. Trust what is certain and concrete
2. Like new ideas only if they have practical applications
3. Value realism and common sense
4. Like to use and hone established skills
5. Give detailed descriptions
6. Are oriented to the present
7. *Show them how following Jesus is practical.*

Intuitives (N)

S vs. N = Where do you prefer to live?
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1. Trust inspiration and inference
2. Like new ideas and concepts for their own sake
3. Value imagination and innovation
4. Like to learn new skills; get bored easily
5. Tend to be general and figurative
6. Are oriented to the future
7. Present information through leaps, in a round-about manner
8. *Let them dream.*

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Thinkers (T)

1. Apply impersonal analysis to problems
2. Value logic, justice, fairness; one standard for all
3. Naturally see flaws and tend to be critical
4. May be seen as heartless, insensitive, uncaring
5. More important to be truthful than tactful
6. Believe feelings are valid only if they are logical
7. Motivated by a desire for achievement and accomplishment
8. *Emphasize how discipleship makes sense.*

Feelers (F)

T vs. F = How you make decisions.

1. Consider effect of actions on others
2. Value empathy and harmony
3. See the exception to the rule
4. Like to please others; show appreciation easily
5. May be over-emotional and illogical
6. Important to be tactful as well as truthful
7. Believe any feeling is valid, whether it makes sense or not
8. Motivated by a desire to be appreciated
9. *Encourage them.*

Judging (J)

1. Are happiest after decisions have been made
2. Work first, play later
3. Set goals and work toward achieving them on time
4. Prefer knowing what they are getting into
5. Product-oriented (completing task, bottom line)
6. Derive satisfaction from finishing projects
7. See time as finite; take deadlines seriously
8. *Be on time. Set deadlines.*

Perceivers (P)

J vs. P = How you do time.

1. Are happiest leaving their options open
2. Play now, finish the job later
3. Change goals based on new information
4. Like adopting new situations
5. Process-oriented
6. Receive satisfaction from starting projects
7. See time as a renewable resource and deadlines as elastic
8. *Appreciate their flexibility. Keep moving ahead.*