

# Learning about yourself

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**By Judith Biggs**

BIG SANDY, Texas—You may have read books that describe the personality types of people. These books use various descriptive words to define people's characteristics. Some of these books use the names of animals to make their point. Others use colors.

I was introduced to my first color-code book when we moved to Northern California. The book, *The Color Code*, was written by Dr. Taylor Hartman in 1987. It was the rage in the western states at that time. Other color-coding books have been written, but this was the one that introduced the subject to me.

## **God loves variety**

Before I mention items in the book, let me make a few comments about my view of God.

As a child I was somewhat angry with God for making us all so different. There would be so much more peace in the world if we had more in common.

But God is who He is. We cannot make Him in our image.

Guess what. God loves variety. He loves different colors, shapes and sizes.

God gives us tremendous latitude within His law to be an individual. No yellow pencils for Him.

## **Doing our job**

I definitely believe that eternal life is a gift from God. I also believe God has a job for me now and in the future.

I believe that there are three basic job requirements.

- We are to love God with all our heart and being.
- We are to love our neighbor as ourself.
- We are to love ourself.

God helps us to fulfill these requirements by giving us gifts.

Having a better understanding about how God, neighbor and myself tick has really helped me deal with the many people I come in contact with.

### **Using our talents**

In Matthew 25:14 we find a man who was given five talents and was expected to do something with them. He doubled the talents.

I don't think he went to Las Vegas to gamble, hoping Lady Luck was with him.

I doubt that he sat in his recliner dreaming about the talents he had received.

I don't think he tried several get-rich-quick schemes.

I believe that he knew himself well enough to know where and how he could use his talents to gain another five.

I imagine it took a lifetime of planning, work, prayer and sweat and a lot of perseverance. It had to center on the big three principles mentioned above.

### **Four basic colors**

When I read the color book I was in home health care. My job was to feed, bathe and be a companion to people who were approaching death. Many of the people were anticipating death within a year.

Honestly, it was not a job that I really liked. But I could do it well, and it paid the bills. Having a better understanding of these elderly people sure helped me to be more sensitive to their needs.

The book contained four basic colors that represented four basic approaches. The four were:

- Red: power.
- Blue: people.
- White: peace.
- Yellow: fun.

We have to remember that within each category are functional and dysfunctional people. There are also introverts and extroverts. And, of course, there are strengths and weaknesses in each category.

Although it is common for people to have a combination of the characteristics, it is helpful to find your primary color.

### **Four housewives**

Let's consider how four housewives from the four different personality types approach cleaning their houses.

- Red will clean the house because it needs to be cleaned.
- Blue will clean the house more for other people than for herself. People are her lifeline.

- White will clean the house for one of two reasons, but both have to do with peace. Either the clutter is not giving her peace or the clutter is bothering someone else who is not giving her peace.
- Yellow will clean the house so the house can be used to play games.

### **Four soldiers**

Let's have a little fun with Revelation 19:14. Let's notice the four personality types who return with Jesus Christ.

- Red is thinking about the philosophy and strategy behind the destruction of the evil government and the establishment of right leadership.
- Blue is thinking about destroying wickedness so God's way can be taught to the people who survive.
- White is thinking about all the peace there will be when wickedness is destroyed.
- Yellow is thinking about the fun and joy in the lives of the people who survive.

### **The secret's out**

Okay, so what color am I? Peace is my first, middle and last name. Therefore white is my primary color.

I love projects. I take care of my health, finances, relationships, etc., not because I am so righteous. I certainly don't view myself that way.

I understand that my actions bring me peace.

Do you know what I worry about the most? I don't want to do that which is wrong just to have peace. That challenge certainly gives me something to talk to God about.

I want to do that which is right, not for peace. I want to do what is right because I love God, neighbor and myself.

In fact, it is my goal to be willing to stand up for God and His way, even if there is no peace at the moment.

### **Various shades**

I will mention one last concept before I stop: There are various shades of each color.

When I was young I was a soft white.

When I was headed for college I was a bright white ready to take on the world.

After a life of trials and heartache I became off-white.

Now that I have turned 68, you guessed it, I am antique white.