

# *Fearfully and Wonderfully Made and the Difference Grace Makes*



*"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Galatians 2:20*

UNDERSTANDING THE UNIQUENESS OF OUR GOD-GIVEN PERSONALITIES WILL HELP US TO UNDERSTAND OURSELVES AND GET ALONG BETTER WITH OTHERS.

We each are **bent** a certain way, *"for it is God which worketh in you...to do of his good pleasure."* Grace is the difference maker, and Spirit-controlled personalities are seen as listed below:

## **Personality #5—The Investigator**

**Bible Examples: Nicodemus, Thomas, Jochebed**

**THEIR UNIQUE PERSONALITY—AND POSSIBLY YOURS**

1. Are open and receptive to new ideas and enjoy **investigating** things in detail.

NICODEMUS: *"There was a man of the Pharisees, named Nicodemus, ruler of the Jews: the same came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him."* John 3:1, 2

JOCHEBED: *"And the woman conceived and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months. And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink."* Exodus 2:2, 3

2. Pay close attention and analyze from their own **perspective** .

NICODEMUS: *"How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?"* John 3:3-9

THOMAS: *"The other disciples therefore said unto him, We have seen the Lord. But he said unto them, Except I shall see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and thrust my hand into his side, I will not believe."* John 20:25

3. Are the most **inquisitive** of all the different personalities.

NICODEMUS: *"How can these things be?" John 3:9*

JOCHEBED: She found answers for herself and passed them on to her three children, who became major players in Israel's redemption from Egypt. Jochebed's influence on her children must have been remarkable. Against all odds she instilled courage, resourcefulness, and faith in God.—Moses, the leader of millions, Miriam a prophetess and leader of the Hebrew women (Exo. 15:20), and Aaron, who served as the first high priest of Israel and spokesman for Moses (Exo. 4:14-16).

4. Often have a passion for **collecting** things, such as **thoughts, ideas, knowledge, silence, and space**.

In John 3, Nicodemus left with his questions unanswered. He had to think it through and collect information on the matter further. He came to the right conclusion after doing so.

It is something of a quiet inner power of people who have this personality.

5. Generally avoid anything that could draw \_\_\_\_\_ to themselves.

NICODEMUS: *"The same came to Jesus by night." John 3:2a*

By day, Nicodemus was a lawyer. When he was in work mode, he could face people and get things done. For personal matters, he was not so visible.

JOCHEBED: After she had laid Moses in the river, she walked away. It's Miriam, his sister, who watches from afar. *Exodus 2:3, 4*

6. Sometimes feel that if they share themselves they might **lose** themselves.

Why would Nicodemus not continue his discussion with Jesus in John 3?

Was he even present while Jesus finished what He had to say? *John 3:9-22*.

They have **surprising** minds but are sometimes reluctant to share because they also possess an emotional stinginess.

THOMAS: We discover from his story that he was sincerely devoted to his Master, and yet he fought with uncertainties and questions. *John 20:19-24*

NICODEMUS: Nobody doubts that he had a brilliant mind. He was a lawyer, but he "held his cards close to his vest" until he could turn loose.

JOCHEBED: How surprisingly smart she must have been, but what must have been her thoughts and emotions when she walked away from Moses? .

7. Are **analytical** and want to find the ultimate, simple explanation for everything.

NICODEMUS: He wanted a quick, simple answer, but he probably felt as if he had to walk away and think it over.

THOMAS: He acquired a nickname by which he would be identified throughout history: Doubting Thomas. They're analytical, observant, and quiet, but not shy. Thomas and Nicodemus spoke right up.

8. Often make great **counsellors** because they can follow the monologue of others for a long time.

JOCHEBED: Her wisdom and advice undoubtedly catapulted Moses, Miriam, and Aaron to their prominent positions. Each of them had distinctly different personalities, but one consistent influence in their lives, and God used each in a specific, effective way.

They're good conversationalists because they have a broad range of knowledge. Some people can even get them to open up and be warm. Because they are good at controlling their emotions, they can think objectively when dealing with people.

**More facts about this investigative personality:**

1. They don't like to be pressured for fast decisions.
2. Everything is calculated in their minds in terms of energy (even subconsciously).  
If it's something they care about, you get 100% energy and effort. If they don't, they're not giving their energy to it.
3. They want to appear competent at all costs. It affects their need for privacy. They don't want to be caught off guard. They may be heard saying, "I understand the concept." They don't want to be patronized or have their intelligence insulted.
4. They hate to waste—time, money, resources, anything.
5. They actually enjoy their own company. Overly emotional people feel exhausting
6. They often get stuck researching a thing instead of DOING the thing. Reading about it and planning it are more exhilarating than doing. (can't exhaust energy; they run on limited fuel)
7. They are actually incredibly thoughtful because they have thought through everything.