

GENDER DIFFERENCES

“One time my wife said to me....”

- I. Gender differences are profound in all relationships, especially marriage, but the Bible doesn't focus too much on the differences between the sexes. The bible does refer to the differences, but the context suggests that these are accepted norms.

Gen. 1.27 says, *So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.*

Both sexes are created _____.

Both are in _____ before the fall.

II. The Creation of ~~Eve~~ Marriage!

The creation of Eve is noted by scholars as the first marriage. The manner in which she was _____ alludes to the _____ we have as male and female in marriage.

Ezer-Kennegdo. עֵזֶר כְּנֶגְדּוֹ. Although translated as 'suitable helper' this word has always been translated elsewhere as: _____! ~ Allendar & Longman

Gen. 3.36 *And you will desire to control your husband, but he will rule over you.*

Jordan Peterson: “Women deeply want men who are competent and powerful. And I don't mean power in that they can exert tyrannical control over others. That's not power. That's just corruption.”

Gary Thomas, Ph.D., says that marriage is not to make us happy but rather to make us holy.

If _____ makes marriage difficult then _____ is the antidote.

There are many things that couples share in similarities. _____ are absolutely the number one necessity for a fulfilling marriage.

“Share our similarities, celebrate our differences.” ~ M. Scott Peck

The Brain: The male and female brain have profound differences structurally and functionally. The differences in organization and circuitry has been established by a vast amount of research. William Struthers, Ph.D. in Neuropsychology, states that the brain is different by cultural and social environment influences as well as design. Daniel Amen, M.D., also states in a lecture that there is a significant difference in processing.

The male brain has more _____ from the occipital lobe to the prefrontal cortex while the female brain has more _____ in the corpus collosum connecting the two hemispheres. What does this mean for us?

The most helpful analogy is one that helps us **relate** better to the opposite sex.

Men are like _____	Women are like _____
We compartmentalize	They connect
We hyper-focus	They multi-task
We know stuff about tanks and jets	They couldn't care less

One time my wife said to me, “I need you to hop on over to the waffle square in your brain where our third born child lives.”

One time I said to my wife, “babe you are surfing the noodles all over the place.”

So how can we empathize and better communicate?

- Remember there are multiple streams of thought coursing through their neural network at any given time including pain from the past.
- Unresolved conflict will garner more cognitive capacity.
- Connection is more important to them than resolution and correction but those are important too.
- Forethought on special days, special gifts prove you are thinking about them.

1 Peter 3:7 *In the same way, you husbands must give honor to your wives. Treat your wife with understanding as you live together. She may be weaker than you are, but she is your equal partner in God's gift of new life. Treat her as you should so your prayers will not be hindered.*

Eph. 5.21-28

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