

## "The Gender Gap"

Genesis 1:27; 2:18-25; Matthew 19:1-4; 1 Peter 3:7

I want to speak on "the Gender Gap." Two reasons for this:

1) The current controversy—A "*signs of the times*" is the gender controversy. The world is mixing the sexes in a "gender-blender." ["*Non-binary sex status*."] God created men and women different (text). And what God hath made different, let not man make them the same!

2) To help strengthen your marriage.

HUMOR: Did you know that inanimate objects have gender differences—Consider the "Gender of Inanimate Objects":

1. Ziploc Bags— They are male, because they hold everything in, but you can see right through them.
2. Copy machines— They are female, because once turned off, it takes a while for them to warm up again. It's an effective reproductive device if the right buttons are pushed.
3. Tires— Male, because it goes bald and it's often over-inflated.
4. Hot Air Balloon—Male, because, to get it to go anywhere, you have to light a fire under it. And, of course, there's the hot air component.
5. Sponges— Female— Soft, squeezable and retain water.
6. Web Page— Female, because they get hit on.
7. Subway—Male, because it uses the same old lines to pick people up.
8. Hourglass—Female, because over time, the weight shifts to the bottom.
9. Hammer— Male, because it hasn't changed much over the last 5,000 years, but it's handy to have around.
10. Remote Control— Female. Ha! You -0.4 (F) (r) -0.2 (n) -0.3 (u) 0.4(n) 0. (a

- New American Bible (1988)
- New Century Version (1987, 1991)
- New Revised Standard Version (1989)
- The Message (1993)
- Contemporary English Version (1995)
- New Living Translation (1996)
- Today's New International Version (2005)
- Common English Bible (2011)

A few examples of how these modern so-called “bibles” remove the gender distinctions from the text:

**KJV**—Ezekiel 2:1— *“And he said unto me, **Son of man**, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee.”*

**Common English Bible (CEB)**— “The voice said to me: ‘**Human one**, stand on your feet, and I'll speak to you’”

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**KJV**—Matt. 8:20— *And Jesus saith unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the **Son of man** hath not where to lay his head.*

**CEB**—“Jesus replied, ‘Foxes have dens, and the birds in the sky have nests, but **the Human One** has no place to lay his head.’” The title, “Human One” does not carry the same weight as “*Son of Man*.”

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**KJV**—Mark 1:17—*“And Jesus said unto them, Come ye after me, and I will make you to become fishers of **men**.”*

**CEB**—“Come, follow me,” he said, “and I'll show you how to fish for **people**.”

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**KJV**—1 Cor. 15:21—*For since by man came death, by man came also the resurrection of the dead.*

**New American Bible (NAB)**—“For since death came through a **human being**, the resurrection of the dead came also through a **human being**.”

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➡ This week (6/15/16) Canada's House of Commons voted to change the country's national anthem, "*O Canada*," to make the lyrics gender-neutral.

Transgender? The problem is sexual perversion—An abomination in the sight of God! The Bible is explicit on the issues of homosexual and transgender lives:

- Leviticus 20:13—*If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination...*
- Romans 1:26-27—*For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.*

**To make things the same that God created different is CONFUSION.**

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One **major point of friction in marriage** is failing to recognize the differences between a man and a woman—Not only the obvious *physical* differences, but also *psychological* (emotional) and *sociological* differences. We must **understand** these differences and “what makes our spouse tick” if our marriage is to be all God intended.

1 Peter 3:7 says, “*Likewise, ye husbands, dwell with them according to knowledge, giving honour unto the wife, as unto the weaker vessel, and as being heirs together of the grace of life; that your prayers be not hindered.*” There must be a mutual respect for the differences God made in a husband and wife. Getting to **know** your wife or husband is vital for an enduring relationship.

➡ In this message I want to explain some differences between the sexes we must to understand.

## **HUMOROUS DIFFERENCES**

### **Money**

- A man will pay \$2 for a \$1 item he wants.
- A woman will pay \$1 for a \$2 item that she doesn't want.

## Grooming

- A man has six items in his bathroom: A toothbrush, shaving cream, razor, a bar of soap, and a towel from the Holiday Inn.
- The average number of items in the typical woman's bathroom is 125. A man would not be able to identify most of these items.

## Arguments

- A woman has the last word in any argument.
- Anything a man says after that is the beginning of a new argument.

## Cats

- Women love cats.
- Men say they love cats, but when women aren't looking, men kick cats.

## Future

- A woman worries about the future until she gets a husband.
- A man never worries about the future until he gets a wife.

## Success

- A successful man is one who makes more money than his wife can spend.
- A successful woman is one who can find such a man.

## Marriage

- A woman marries a man expecting he will change, but he doesn't.
- A man marries a woman expecting that she won't change and she does.

## Dressing Up

- A woman will dress up to go shopping, water the plants, empty the garbage, answer the phone, read a book, get the mail.
- A man will dress up for weddings, funerals.

## Natural

- Men wake up as good-looking as they went to bed.
- Women somehow deteriorate during the night.

## Offspring

- Ah, children. A woman knows all about her children. She knows about dentist appointments and romances, best friends, favorite foods, and secret fears and hopes and dreams.
- A man is vaguely aware that some short people live in the house.

### Mistakes

- Any married man should forget his mistakes.
- There's no use in him and his wife both remembering the same thing.

#### I. **Difference #1—Enjoy the PROCESS vs. Focus on the GOAL.**

➡ Women enjoy the journey towards the goal. Men are goal oriented. They are only interested in the goal, forget the process!

- Women are like “crock pots” — Men are like microwaves!

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Barb and I could be driving down the Oregon Coast and she says something romantic like, “Oh, look at the sand dunes.” I’m thinking, “Those God-forsaken, monolithic, boring, blobs of nothing! They’re proof God must have dozed off at some point during creation!”

Then I say something goal oriented like, “Forget the dunes... Watch for cops—I’m trying to get where we’re going by 5:00!”

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➡ The best way I can think of illustrating this is a word that scalds my tongue to say it—SHOPPING! Women enjoy the process of shopping—LOOKING—“Look at this; Isn’t this nice; Look at this; Isn’t it beautiful.” She goes on looking like she is on a mission from God.

On the other hand, I go into the store with one thing on my mind—getting out as soon as possible.

#### II. **Difference #2— Report vs. “Rapport.”**

A. Because men are *goal* oriented, men are focused on the REPORT in a conversation—The bottom line. They don’t need all the details, the fluff, or rabbit trails— Just the essential information they need to survive and function in the home.

B. Women are more *relationship* oriented. Therefore they seek to build RAPPORT in a conversation. They like to talk, mull over the details, explore feelings, bare their heart—**Make a connection.**

### III. Difference #3— **EMOTIONAL vs. LOGICAL.**

In 1981, Dr. Roger Sperry won the Nobel Peace Prize in medicine and physiology for his study on HOW THE BRAIN FUNCTIONS IN MALES AND FEMALES. He discovered that between the 16th and 26th week of gestation, boy babies have a chemical reaction in their brains that girl babies don't have. Two chemicals are released in the boy that slow down the development of the right side of his brain (emotions).

Dr. Sperry discovered what women have known all along—Men were born with brain damage!

Ladies, remember there is a biological difference in the way you remember and react to things. It isn't that your husband doesn't care—His brain just works differently. (One lady says, "I don't think his brain works at all!")

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➡ When you apply this difference between husbands and wives trying to solve a marital conflict with PURE EMOTION and PURE LOGIC, you wind up with PURE CHAOS! The only stable basis to solve a marital dispute is the WORD OF GOD.

➡ Here is a statement that damages more marriages than any other: **"When he changes to be more like I want him to be, we'll have a happy marriage."** WRONG. If you could change him to be more like you want him to be, you'd essentially change him into a "right brain" person, which, by any other definition, would be *a woman!*

➡ Do not try to turn your mate into a clone of yourself. God created an "*help meet*" for Adam. He did NOT give Adam another "Adam."

- Women tend to rely on their feelings and emotions. Men tend to discover and rely on facts.
- Women tend to take things personally and get offended quicker. Men tend to take things less personally and get offended less often.

- Women get upset slower and stay upset longer. Men tend to get upset faster and get over it quicker.
  - Women tend to respond to circumstances emotionally, while men tend to downplay situations.
  - Women tend to magnify a problem. Men will try to minimize a problem.
- A. Men generally like to solve problems. They want to FIX it and make it to go away as fast as possible.
  - B. Women like to express how they *feel* about a problem, not necessarily how to solve it.
    1. They want to “vent” their frustrations and have their husband listen and “feel her pain.”
    2. They want a “sound board.”
  - C. When a man communicates a problem to his wife, she’ll *empathize*. If a woman communicates a problem to her husband, he will *strategize*.

#### **IV. Difference #4—The role of LEADER vs. role of SUPPORTER**

(Eph. 5:23).

- A. God made the man the spiritual leader of the home (Gen. 3:16).
  1. This is because God knew the natural tendency of the woman is to usurp authority. Why did Paul write, “*I suffer not a woman to usurp authority over the man?*” Because God knew that was the natural thing a woman tries to do in the flesh.
  2. It takes a Spirit-filled woman to follow a man’s leadership. The nature of a carnal woman is to try to control her husband.
- B. Women are more susceptible to spiritual deception (1 Tim. 2:14-15). Men have more spiritual discernment and perception.

#### **V. Difference #5— INNER satisfaction vs. OUTWARD affirmation.**

- A. Most men tend to be fulfilled just knowing he has completed a task successfully. He doesn't require any outward acknowledgment. He is OK if no body notices what he has accomplished.
- B. Women tend to need an outward affirmation of success. Women derive security from praise. They need to be complimented more than men (see Prov. 31:28-31; Song 6:9; Gen. 30:1). KTm /T(NG) (