

# The Best Kind of Partnership

Genesis 3

Genesis 3:16-20

To the woman he said,

"I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

[17] To Adam he said, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'You must not eat of it,'

"Cursed is the ground because of you; through painful toil you will eat of it all the days of your life. It will produce thorns and thistles for you, and you will eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your brow you will eat your food until you return to the ground, since from it you were taken; for dust you are and to dust you will return."

## TWO THINGS WE HATE THE MOST

1. **ISOLATION**: the feeling of being disconnected, separated, not having access to something or someone you love.
2. **LOSS OF CONTROL**: the inability to fix, change or undo what is or has happened to you, the loss of choices.

1 Peter 3:7

*Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.*

## VERY VERY IMPORTANT

Ephesians 5: 22

Submission and respect . . .different roles and responsibilities SAME **VALUE**

**Jack Taylor: EVERY MAN SHOULD KNOW**

*Concerning women: “They express themselves Differently , handle feelings D, make decisions D, fight D, view marriage D, express love and sex D, respond to sin and guilt D, and view themselves D.*

**Yet as DR. JOHN GRAY: MEN ARE FROM MARS/WOMEN FROM VENUS**

*“The biggest problem in relationships today is that couples forget that they are different.*

**MEN continue to expect women to THINK and REACT like men**

**WOMEN continue to expect MEN to FEEL and BEHAVE like WOMEN**

## **WE ARE DIFFERENT BY DIVINE DESIGN**

### **EXTREMELY IMPORTANT:**

The power and depth of any relationship depends on how willing two people are to **UNDERSTAND**, **ACCEPT** and **APPRECIATE** each others differences.

#### **A. DIFFERENCES CONCERNING THE BRAIN**

Much of the MYSTERY concerning our difference is solved when we focus upon the LESS OBVIOUS PHYSIOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES.

TWO HEMISPHERES OF THE BRAIN connected by zillions of “neuro connectors”.

- a. Scientists have been able to map the brain as to which areas control /influence our 5 senses and different abilities.
- b. Also discovered that we USE DIFFERENT SIDES for DIFFERENT MENTAL functions.

#### **LEFT**

1. Analytical
2. Linear
3. Explicit
4. Sequential
5. Rational

**solve problems**

#### **RIGHT**

1. Intuitive
2. Emotional
3. Creative
4. Visual
5. Holistic

**relate to people**

## **FACTS:**

1. We all use **both** sides.
2. Women use both sides at the same time more often than men
3. Women favor the **right** side and MEN favor the **left** side.
4. Information from both sides is **imperative** to deep communication.

Many Scientist believe that WOMEN have 40% more NEVRVE BUNDLES connecting the Right and Left than men.

## **IMPACT:**

Women are much more relational, nurturing

SATISFACTION: **connecting**

Men are much more thinkers and doers

SATISFACTION: **achieving**

## **B. DIFFERENCES CONCERNING IDENTITY**

1. MEN view people as self-**reliant**, independent of each other, often responsible for yourself.

WOMEN view people as mutually **dependent**, needing each other, connected

ILLUSTRATION: FOOTBALL: Men: running back

Women: Field goal kicker, needing blockers

2. MEN tend to be **risk** takers

WOMEN generally prefer **security** and **order**

3. MEN tend to regard events as **isolated**

WOMEN consider actions within the **context**. . . linking one to another

## **RESULTS:**

Most often MEN make decisions based on what is **BEST FOR THEM**.

WOMEN most often consider the **IMPACT A DECISION** has upon everyone around them.

**MAN NEEDS A BIG SCREEN TV**

**WOMAN NEEDS A NEW STOVE**

### C. CONCERNING SATISFACTION

GENESIS 3: Responsibilities from God.

Man's initial ROLE was to PROVIDE FOOD, CLOTHING SHELTER.

Each provided problems that needed solving.

**MEN:** in accomplishing or achieving a goal

The more he **does**. . . greater he will be **needed**

The greater he will be needed. . . the greater the **appreciation**

The greater the appreciation the greater the **love**

**WOMEN:** nurturing and building relationships

The greater the **communication** the closer the **connection**

The closer the connection the greater the **trust**

The greater the trust the greater the **security**

The greater the security the **deeper the love**.

### D. CONCERNING TASK ORIENTATION

University of Penn. Research Institute while doing Comparative Brain Research discovered 3 amazing facts about men's and women's brain

FACTS:

1. A WOMAN'S brain is at work almost all the time in more sections than the man's. As if both hemispheres are always "on call."

2. A MAN'S brain will usually use **one hemisphere at a time**.

3. When there is a **TASK TO DO**, a MAN'S brain will turn on. When the task is over it will turn off. A WOMAN'S brain is **ALWAYS ON**.

RESULTS:

**WOMEN:**

1. **Tune** in everything at one time.
2. **Multi-** task oriented
3. Ability to pick up on more **non-verbal** communication
4. **Inclusive:** can move in and out of different topics
5. **Energized** by new information and experiences
6. Often **distracted**

**MEN:**

1. Has the ability to **disconnect** emotionally
2. Delayed **emotional** response.  
*Men see feelings as a **reward** for reaching a goal.*  
*Women use feelings as an **access** to reaching a goal.*
3. Focus intensely upon the **details**
4. **Exclusive**: Ability to block out the non-essentials
5. Often oblivious to **needs** going on around them.

**ILLUSTRATION:** A. Coming to Church on Sunday morning  
B. Women do not have to be in the same room to watch a TV program.

**E. CONCERNING THE REASON WE TALK**

1. Different **PURPOSES**

Women are **EXPRESSERS**:                      **connection**  
Men are **RESOLVERS**:                      **solutions**

2. Different **METHODS**

Women are **EXPANDERS** of information  
Men are **CONDENSERS** of information                      *SGT FRIDAY DRAGNET*

**NOTE: WOMEN TALK LIKE THEY SHOP**

3. Different **LANGUAGES**

**Left Brain:** Language of knowledge and skills    **REPORT** TALK  
**Right Brain:** Language to establish connection and negotiate relationships  
**RAPPORT** TALK

# THREE KEYS FOR THE BEST COMMUNICATION

## A. Adapt the way we TALK

**GENDERFLEX:** To temporarily use communication patterns typical of the other gender in order to connect with them and increase the potential for influence.

## FOUR RESOLUTIONS FOR WOMEN

### WIVES

- a. Choose words like: “It’s my impression, From my perspective, My feelings are. . . .” Most men react negatively to a “WHY” question.
- b. Make **DIRECT REQUEST** rather than **INDIRECT REQUEST**
- c. Change **COULD YOU** to **WOULD YOU**  
“Could you”. . . . asks if he is **able**  
“Would you”. . . . asks for a **decision** and **commitment**
- c. Be careful about **FOUR WORD SENTENCES**  
“*WE need to talk*”

## B. Adapt the way we LISTEN

### LISTENING KEYS FOR MEN

1. Do not get frustrated when your wife talks about something that you can do nothing about.  
They are **RELATING TO THE PROBLEM** not trying to **SOLVE IT**.  
**UNDERSTANDING** is more **IMPORTANT** than **SOLUTIONS**.
2. Allow them to go into great detail about the problem.
3. Allow your wife to use “all encompassing words: like  
“You always, All the time, You never. . . .”

WOMEN talk about **IMPRESSIONS**  
MEN talk about **FACTS**

WOMEN talk about the **CLIMATE**  
MEN talk about the **WEATHER**

## LISTENING KEYS FOR WOMEN

1. When men talk they are either
  - a. Trying to solve a problem
  - b. Blaming someone or something for what did or didn't happen.
2. Understand that a man is wired differently. He has the same emotions as you, but not as many OUTLETS.
3. VOCABULARILY HANDICAPPED. Three outlets for emotions
  - a. **MAD**
  - b. **SAD**
  - c. **GLAD**

### **C. Adapt the way we THINK**

Since men are sequential in the way they solve problems, there is nothing more irritating for a man than for his wife to come to a conclusion in an illogical way. Do not get irritated when there is no logical order to the problem they are talking about

Men	1 . . . <u>2</u> . . . <u>3</u> . . . 4
Women	1 . . . <u>3</u> . . . <u>2</u> . . . 4