

The Male and Female Psyche Characteristics

FAMILY SERIES

SOLVING FAMILY CONFLICTS ARISING FROM MALE-FEMALE PSYCHE DIFFERENCES

Gen. 1:26,27, Then God said, 'Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness. Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the fowl of the air and over the cattle and over all the earth over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth. ' So God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created them male and female He created them.'

The word male and female conveys to us only biological differences. But there are not only differentiations of male and female in the sense of physical and biological manifestations alone. Everything in the physical is a picture of something in the invisible realm. We need to understand that there are soul qualities that lend to male-female qualities. I can't say that of the spirit but I can say that of the soul. There are soul qualities that lend it to feminine and masculine characteristics. God made man, male and female not just in reference to the biological characteristics, but to the type of personality what a male or female should be.

In heaven, even though there is no marriage anymore because our physical bodies will be changed into a different type of body, but the soul qualities will still be there. There is neither male nor female in the physical realm in heaven, but you

would still have the feminine and masculine qualities of the soul with a special body.

What God intended for the female qualities will be in its perfect state in heaven. There are inherent soul qualities in us that we need to develop in God. Women need to be women in the right way, proud of what God made them to be, likewise for men too. In our society we now have men trying to be women and women trying to be men. Sometimes it's not their fault that they are this way, but their parents'. For example they may have wanted a boy but got a girl instead, so they try to dress her up like a boy and put on all kinds of pressures on her to conform to be like a boy and she grows up trying to be a man.

And sometimes in the course of life a man although develops biologically like a man, but because his soul area is not developed carefully, he becomes what I call a 'feminine man'. On the other hand you have also the 'masculine woman'.

What are then these male and female qualities that we need to define in a man and woman? They are:

1. *Women tend to look at details and to be preoccupied with it.*

Men tend to look at the general. For example, a woman looks at the trees, while men look at the forest. While the woman has a microscopic view, the man has a telescopic view.

2. *Women inter-relates everything together.*

Everything is seen as one huge big organic relationship. They don't separate it even though it's not related. For a woman a mathematical equation can be like, one plus two plus apples plus oranges, plus elephants, plus zebras equal one. Everything equals one. A man looks at the equation and asks, 'Hey, what does the relationship of apples have to do with number one, what has the relationship of zebras to do with

oranges?

3. *While woman unify, man classify.*

For men, their equation is different. One plus one equals two. They have no relationship to apples. Zebras plus elephants equals animals, not one. Animals and numbers have no relationship to each other. For men, they just compartmentalize. Everything is a compartment by itself.

If these areas of the soul of both men and women are not handled carefully, they will clash. Even if some of you are not married it is still important for you to understand these things. In the future when you relate to the opposite sex you need to understand these things to know how to relate properly to them or you will face problems. This applies even to leaders, pastors who will have to deal with the opposite sex.

4. When a woman speaks or asks why, their questions are usually founded on an emotional base not intellectual. It is more important that they seek an emotional answer rather than an intellectual one to their questions. But when a man asks why, the intellectual answer is more important than an emotional based answer. So when the two come together and ask each other why, they may clash and fight. That doesn't mean a man does not have emotions. When a man's intellectual needs are met he is quite satisfied. For a lady, if their emotional needs are not met, no matter how detailed an analysis is given to their answer, it is not good enough.

For example, a poor husband comes with a stack of papers and announces to his wife and says, "Look this is my third thesis on our problems. I have consulted 250 books, 500 libraries and spent 2,300 hours of research." The answers she wants is not an intellectual based one; even if it is given it is still not answered for her. There is a different whole need altogether.

Let me recount a little parable of the white knight and the princess. There was this white knight in his coat of arms riding on a horse in a forest. As he was riding, he suddenly heard a scream from a distance. He turned and saw that a princess was in

distress. A dragon was nearby and attacking her. Quickly he rode off into her direction to rescue her. He pulls out his sword and kills the dragon.

As the story goes, both fall in love and marry each other and they didn't live quite happily ever after yet. After they got married, they lived in a castle. One day the knight went out again. The princess who is now his wife looks out from the window of the castle and calls out to her husband. "Dear, are you going out again?" "Yes, dear," he chimes lovingly to her. "Here is a lasso that's made of a special rope that can fight dragons." "Thank you," he replies and takes it from her and put it among his order weapons.

As he rode out into the horizon, he found a village being attacked by another dragon. The dragon was burning up the village. He quickly rode up to the dragon and as he was about to fight it, he was deciding whether to use his usual weapon, the sword or the lasso, which his wife provided him. As he was about to take his sword, he heard from a distance the voice of his princess wife who was concerned for her white knight. "Darling," she screamed, "Use the lasso." "OK," he says, and decides to use the lasso. He subdues the dragon and finally manages to strangle the dragon with it but not without much encouragement from her. The whole village was filled with joy that day. His wife was also filled with gladness. But somehow that day, even though the knight won the battle, he felt different. He didn't feel like a man anymore. He felt he had been mothered. And he felt slightly smaller. Although everybody was happy he felt a little unhappy on the inside. He had his victory but he was not happy about his victory for the first time.

Things went about normal again. But one day he decided to go out on one of his frequent dragon slaying trips again. Before he went out, his precious wife gave him a bottle of super poison to carry along and told him to use it against the dragon. Obediently, he took it. This time as he went out he saw a dragon attacking the castle itself. As he was battling the dragon, he was injured in one of his arms. He felt a bit helpless and as the princess was near by, she shouted to him, "The poison, the poison!" Quickly, somehow he managed to take out the bottle of poison with his other uninjured arm and managed to pour it into the dragon's mouth and the dragon died. Everyone was happy, as he had saved the castle. However, very strangely while everyone was celebrating he felt ashamed. He had won but he felt

ashamed. He really felt very small somehow.

Time passed by. One day he went out again on one of his dragon slaying trips. As he rode out into the distance, once again he saw another dragon attacking a village. As he went out to fight the dragon, he remembered all his past experiences. He carried his three weapons with him also, the poison, the lasso and his sword.

As he came against the dragon, for a moment he did not know which weapon to choose to fight with - lasso, poison, or sword. As he neared the dragon, and in the heat of the moment he decided to draw his sword and began to fight the way he used to. Finally, with one final thrust, he drove his sword into the dragon's belly, and killed it. Even though it was a much smaller dragon, unlike the other previous two, he felt for the first time again like a man. He felt big on the inside again.

What is the moral of this parable? A man needs SPACE to be a man in order to have the inner satisfaction. To be what God made him to be. That's the fourth point.

Inherently a man is made to conquer. Success to a man is like masculinity to him. And that success must be wrought by his own efforts. (Of course, in Christianity with the help of the Lord.) Anything else makes him smaller and lesser than a man.

In a lot of relationships the problem is in communications, communications and communications. It is easier said than done. Communications is not just calling up each other. There are different levels of communication. When you don't talk the same vocabulary with each other you don't communicate.

For the man to conquer is an inherent psyche God has put it into him. And they need to do it to feel like a man. For the woman the opposite of it is acceptance. Acceptance is more important to them than anything else. They want to feel accepted and they will try to get acceptance in many, many ways. And rejection is a force that many ladies feel stronger than men. Unless they feel accepted they are frustrated. That acceptance is usually in the form of love and attention and its

varied forms that they need to feel and have. For a man, success is a big thing. If they don't have it they feel frustrated and miserable.

Here are some of the four points playing against each other.

When a man falls in love, he will be taking a lot of initiative to woo the woman: - buying flowers, send cards, buy gifts, he will do anything just to win her heart. When a lady is in love she feels confident. She could be a very timid, shy person but when she falls in love and she knows she is loved, she will begin to walk and talk differently because she has been accepted.

Consider this scenario. A man falls in love with a woman. He does everything to woo the woman he loves. Finally when he thinks the lady's heart is won and he asks her "Do you love me?" She however tries to play coy and tells him, "Let me think about it." He begins to have sleepless nights and he tries harder again in his efforts to woo her. She can't understand why he must try so hard. Why can't he wait? The more she withdraws, the more he pursues her. Any lesser man would have given up. Finally, after all his efforts, he wins her heart and she says yes. And they celebrate. Their relationship is a bed of roses for some time.

Then a strange thing takes place. The man then begins to take time off to play games where before when he was chasing after her he gave up his football with Ronaldo and his golfing with Tiger Wood. Now he has time for all these games and he doesn't make as much time for her now like before. She is puzzled and begins to think - "He loves me, he loves me not, he loves me, he loves me not." Do you know what is happening? The play of the above four points is happening.

When a man has won a woman's love, the man feels satisfied. To him it's one more area of conquest done and settled in his life. He will begin to pursue other areas. Perhaps his business was not doing well then, so he begins to turn his attention to it. For a man, once an area is conquered, it is settled. It means he can return to it again whenever he wants it. For a woman she cannot understand this kind of

behavior. "Before I said I love him, he gives me all the attention. After I said I love him now he goes off," she thinks. What is he trying to do? He goes off not because he doesn't love her but because he is a compartmentalizer. He is now assured and now he wants to pursue other areas. Men are like rubber bands. They need to stretch. Because he compartmentalizes so many things he is a 'stretcher'. He has to withdraw away to conquer other areas otherwise he is no more a man.

From the woman's side, it looks as if the man doesn't love her. She takes it that his interest in her is dying. And the more he goes off doing his things, the more she clings. Women are like glue. On his way out to conquer, she may begin to make noise. He turns around and asks, "What's happening there? I thought our relationship was settled. I love you, you love me, that's it." So he comes in again and reassures her of his love and she feels good and accepted again. After reassuring her again, he goes out to conquer again. But after a while she begins to make noise again. After a few rounds of this scenario, they begin to quarrel and this may build up to many years of frustration. And many marriages break up because they don't understand the difference of the soul nature between a male and female.

If the two are so different here how do we harmonize them together?

Timing. A proper timing for one another. For the woman, they need to know the proper time to approach and not to approach the man. In other words he needs space. When he is busy conquering for you – actually, if he loves you he is conquering for you. Instead of being insecure, you should say to him, "Well, I'll be praying for you dear, go ahead. I'll see you when you get back." And begin to encourage him. He will feel more stronger instead of feeling insecure as he goes out to do something else. If the man loves the woman, he will always come back to her after he has conquered. But you need to give him a chance to do that.

Do you know what he will be like when he comes back when you have given him the space? He will be like a teddy bear. He will be very loving towards you because he came back on his own. He is ready for a loving relationship again.

A relationship has different levels of closeness. Lets say from level one to ten. When you look at a stranger you don't say, 'Praise God! When are we going to marry?' You got to build up the relationship right first. Between a husband and wife, there are also different degrees of relationship between them. Lets say the intimacy level is built up to level 5. At this level the man feels he is secure in their relationship and wants to launch into other compartments. For the lady if she doesn't understand him she may feel he is not interested in her anymore. Her level of interest in him begins to drop slowly to lower levels until it is diminished to zero level.

The man, who left at level 5 and did all the conquering, then comes back at the same level to his wife ready for a relationship with her at that level. A man is a compartmentalizer and he can leave at level 5 and come back at the same level once he has finished his business. However the lady keeps score. So he comes back and wants to give his wife a good hug. But the wife refuses his advances and sulks instead. She wants to resume their relationship at zero level again. "Let's talk first." "Let's get to know one another again," she tells him.

Her level has dropped and they need to build it up again before they can relate. And you can see how time consuming it is, and in many relationships, they never succeed. They get further and further emotionally apart. So how do we solve the problem? Timing, as I mentioned above. She must know his cycles and learn how to flow with his cycles. Ladies, if you approach your man at the right time when he is ready to talk with you he will really listen to you.

For the man, in relating to the lady, before you go into another compartment, or conquer new areas, you need to give reassurance for her to look forward to. Tell her, "I'm going to be doing this and I'll be back." Reassure her of your love, reassure her that you are not leaving her but leaving her to do something. Then when you leave she will be happy. What is her need? Love and acceptance. When she is assured you love her and you're coming back she will keep up her level at number 5. So that when you come back to her, she is there at level 5 instead of letting it drop because she was not assured. Timing plays a key factor here.

There are some things a man can do to build that relationship. Let me point to some good suggestions I found in a little booklet, '101 Ways To Score Points with A Lady.' Here are some of them.

1. Upon returning home, find her first before doing anything else and give her a hug.

2. Ask her specific questions about her day that indicate an awareness of what she was planning, for example 'How did your appointment with your doctor go today?'

3. Practice listening and asking questions. Remember, to a woman, answers to her questions need to be emotionally based, and not intellectually. This is not to suggest that they are not intellectual. Many are. I am talking in the area of the needs of a woman not her ability. So when a woman says something, she just wants to let out her emotional feeling. When a man says out something he wants to let out his intellectual thinking example, when she is talking about the house, she is not just talking about the house alone but there is an emotional level that she is trying to express. And you need to be able to draw her out and help her emotional needs.

4. Resist the temptation to solve her problems. She wants you to empathize with her. She doesn't share with you to solve her problems. She is looking for empathy, not sympathy.

5. Give her 20 minutes of unsolicited quality attention. (Don't look at the TV or read the newspapers or be distracted during this time).

6. Bring her cut flowers as a surprise as well as on special

occasions. Women love surprises that are nice.

7. Compliment her on how she looks. Tell any women how terrible she looks, and her day is spoiled.

8. Validate her feelings when she is upset, for example when she is angry and upset, tell her, "I understand dear how you feel." As long as you don't recognize what she is going through she is going to send out "smoke signals" all day until you recognize she is upset. Women need to have their emotions recognized because they are communicating emotionally all the time.)

9. Offer help when she is tired.

10. When you are going to be late call her and let her know.

11. When she asks for support say yes or no without making her feel wrong for asking. Example, don't say, "Actually what you are doing is very wrong but I'm going to help anyway." She rather not have your help.

12. Whenever her feelings are hurt, give her some empathy and say, "I'm sorry, you are hurt." Then be silent and let her feel your understanding. And don't offer explanations or solutions why her hurt is not your fault.

13. Notice when she is upset or tired and ask what she has to do then offer to help a few of her items.

14. Pay her more attention in public than to others.

