

Husband and Wife Relationships

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I. Introduction.

II. Married couples need to put away bitterness and wrath and instead be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving and imitators of God with a spirit of thanksgiving and wisdom. (Ephesians 4:31ff)

III. Prominent differences between men and women.

A. Understanding is to love but requires work and communication. (Proverbs 24:3, Ephesians 4:31)

B. A lack of understanding is one of the key differences between men and women.

C. A man is generally objective and a woman is generally subjective.

1. Women tend to take things more personally.

2. The home becomes an extension of a woman's personality.

D. Men use communication to convey facts while women generally use communication to convey feelings.

1. Women need to accept what men say at face value.

2. Spouses should pray about understanding each other and work at it.

3. Wives should not always expect their husbands to give all the details.

IV. It is important to become familiar with temperament type differences.

V. Good decisions are based on more information.

VI. The needs of a wife.

A. A husband is to love his wives in the same way Christ loves the church. (Ephesians 5)

B. Love must be accompanied by action. (1 John 3:18)

1. Tell her you love her every day.

2. Do something nice for her every day.

3. Pay her a compliment every day.

C. Husbands should develop the habit of happiness. (Proverbs 17:22)

D. The order of a husband's priorities should be God, his wife and then his children.

E. A wife needs to know that she is number one in a husband's thoughts next to God.

Application questions:

1. How can you better show love to your wife?

2. How would your wife order your priorities based on what you do?

3. Which tip for loving your wife did you find most helpful? Explain.
