

Understanding Each Other

Jack Mayhall

I. Introduction.

A. Differences allow us to sharpen each other. (Proverbs 27:17)

B. Marriage is God's way of leading us to God's curriculum of love and righteousness.

II. Essentials for marriage.

A. Marriage takes more than love—it requires time together and work.

B. God must be given the place of priority in the marriage. (Jeremiah 23:24, Philippians 3:10)

III. Most of us really do not understand each other—this is a lifelong process.

IV. The Bible says that married people become one flesh, which is to share the same mind and become best friends.

V. God gave us two personalities so that we could complete each other, but we must learn from one another and be humble.

VI. True love has no maximums, so we must pray for wisdom and love.

VII. To become best friends...

A. We must have God's help.

B. We must know ourselves. (James 1:5)

C. We must know our spouses. (Ephesians 4:13)

1. Be kind to one another.

2. Be understanding.

3. Be forgiving. (Proverbs 17:9)

VIII. Know your spouse.

Application questions:

1. How have you seen differences in your mate add strength?

2. What differences do you tend to struggle with the most?

3. How can you turn those differences into something positive?
