

Building a Successful Marriage, Part 1

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I. Introduction.

A. Husbands and wives have differences beyond the surface. (Ephesians 5:22)

II. There is many differences that husbands and wives need to understand such as personality and gender differences.

III. God wants us to complement each other. (Ephesians 4:32)

A. Be kind to one another.

B. Be understanding.

C. Be forgiving.

IV. God made us different for our happiness.

A. We need to understand each other's differences.

1. Men tend to be more objective. Women tend to be more subjective.

2. Men tend to be more essential minded. Women tend to be more detail minded.

3. Men tend to be logical. Women tend to be emotional.

4. Men tend to think more in straight lines. Women tend to think all around something.

5. A man finds his work to be an extension of himself. A woman thinks of her home as an extension of herself.

6. A man uses speech to convey ideas and facts. A woman uses speech to convey feelings.

7. A man's weakness is a sense of discouragement. A woman's weakness is

V. Men need to learn to value their wives gifts and work as a team instead of feeling competitive.

VI. Men are to love their wives as Christ loved the church.

A. Love is active. (1 John 3:18)

1. He should tell her that he loves her every day.

2. He should do something nice for her every day.

3. He should pay her a complement every day.

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?
