

Differences Between Us, Part 2

Jack & Carole Mayhall

I. Introduction.

- A. God is in the business of meeting our needs and answering our prayers. (Isaiah 55:12)
- B. God delights in our getting to know him more and more every day. (Jeremiah 23:24)
- C. Husbands and wives need to get to know each other.

II. A couple can do more together than two people can by themselves when differences are addressed.

- A. This requires wisdom. (Proverbs 24:3-4)
- B. To be one flesh demands that we become one in body, soul and spirit.
- C. To become best friends...
 - 1. We must have God's help.
 - 2. We must know ourselves. (James 1:5)
 - 3. We must know our spouses. (Ephesians 4:13)
 - a. Be kind to one another.
 - b. Be understanding.
 - c. Be forgiving. (Proverbs 17:9)
- D. We want to study our differences so we can use them to grow together.
 - 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.
- E. Discover and utilize one another's love language: words of affection, touch, quality time, gifts and deeds.

III. God has put two different people together by his plan. (1 Corinthians 12)

- A. We have to work at building unity in these differences.
- B. The parts should have equal concern for one another.
- C. It is important to understand temperament differences to get along such as that of the extrovert and that of the introvert.
- D. We must know, understand, adjust and accept in the face of differences.

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?
