



## CHAPTER 13

### Husband be a Man, Wife be a Woman

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("Rafe")

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## **It's Your CHOICE – Husband Be A Man. Wife Be A Woman.**

### **HUSBAND BE A MAN. WIFE BE A WOMAN.**

I know that I am not an expert on what makes a man tick versus what makes a woman tick. Indeed, I am the only **ME** I know. Moreover, I know from God's Word that I cannot even fully understand my own heart (Jeremiah 17:9).

I do know that God has established and revealed different roles for husbands and wives. An honest reading of Scripture leads to the conclusion that God Himself intentionally created differences between men and women. Since I am a layman with no recognized expertise or competence in physiology, psychiatry, psychology, genetics or any of the medical fields, what I say in this Chapter outside of Biblical truth should be read as being merely my own perspective. I am going to state some aspects of men and women. I realize that there are wide ranges among men and among women. These are general statements and may not fully apply to each person. The initial and primary purpose of writing this book was to provide advice and suggestions to my two lovely daughters and their husbands. I do feel the liberty to express a father's perspective and a father's advice to his own children. So here goes.

In recent years there has been a push by the media and the entertainment industry to persuade the public to believe a variety of LIES. These are lies against the Word of God and these are lies against nature. Here are some of those LIES in random order:

**Lie #1** The only differences between males and females are their reproductive organs and methods of eliminating waste.

**Lie #2** Males and females have the same psychological and emotion makeup.

**Lie #3** There is no need for men and women to be in any way distinctive in their dress or appearance.

**Lie #4** If males and females could be raised in a pure environment where expectations and influences could be totally controlled, then there would not be any differences seen in the thinking, emotions and behavior of men and women.

**Lie #5** The Bible is not true and the Bible itself is an oppressive document written by men who demean and subordinate women.

That is enough bunk. You can add to that list other lies that are being foisted upon society by misguided and deluded self-proclaimed experts these days. All of said lies are contrary to Scripture. These days some people declare whether something is "politically correct." Political correctness actually is attempted censorship and is blatant extortion – "you do and say what we demand, or you will suffer." That is such a pathetic farce. I ask, whose politics and whose standard of correctness? Forget even trying to be politically correct as defined by the media, special interest groups and radicals. The Word is true and the truth sets you free. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. Truth is not up for a vote. Truth is not subject to an opinion poll. God's truth is true even if all humans would choose to disbelieve it (See Romans 3:3-4).

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Back to the differences between men and women. Obviously there are great differences among women themselves and there are great differences among men themselves. Here are some **general** statements about men and women. (I will skip the obvious physical difference between men and women).

Men tend to be active and assertive. Generally males have a greater physical strength than females. Men tend to be more aggressive than females. Men are usually quicker to respond to aggression with a physical reaction than are women. Men are prone to take leadership or even dictatorship. Men are apt to think of the big picture and look down the road to what lies ahead, even missing totally the details and circumstances that are right at his feet.

Women are more likely to perceive and to be sensitive to the situation at hand. Women are generally better at picking up the inner thoughts and positions of a person. Women usually are more emotional than men. Women are better at creating and sustaining relationships than are men. The development of meaningful relationships tends to be more important to a woman than to a man. Women have a more highly developed maternal instinct than a man's paternal instinct (while this does not mean that the father cannot be a devoted and outstanding father, it usually means that the father must regularly make affirmative choices to give attention to matters that the woman gives attention to very naturally and immediately).

Consider the nest principle. I have concluded that God has put into women the "nest" instincts, with the nest being the family and the residence for the family. I believe that it is very critical to the woman that all of the sticks in the nest be in order. When a stick is out of order, the woman is unsettled and will not be at peace until that stick is put back into its place or repaired. By contrast the husband may know that a stick of a nest is out of place but he can be undisturbed about it while he goes out to seek food for the family or to search for a different nest location. That same displaced or damaged stick can be the source of great impact, irritation, concern, or frustration to the wife. Meanwhile the husband may not even notice that the stick is out of order and may have no emotion about that particular stick.

Men tend to be more rational and deliberate. A significant part of the self-identity of a man relates to his job, his training and educational background. A significant part of the self-identity of a woman is her set of past and existing relationship, particularly her family. Women are more prone to manipulate than are men. Men are more likely to be inconsiderate than are women. Men are more prone to verbally attack another, while women are more apt to talk about others behind their backs.

Because of a different emotional makeup, and because of the clearly distinctive physical differences of menstrual cycles and related hormonal changes, women tend to have a wider range of reactions, responses, and even personalities, from one time to another. Women tend to be better equipped to appreciate things that men, and women tend to be more expressive of gratitude.

Women understand women pretty well, but they do not fully understand men, even though many women firmly (and incorrectly) believe that they do understand men completely. Men understand men pretty well, and to some extent really can never achieve understanding of

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women, and men do not tend to conclude that they fully understand women. There are types of sporting events, recreational activities and entertainment which many men enjoy, and they fully understand why men enjoy those things, while those events are often considered by women to be childish or dumb. There are activities and types of entertainment which many women enjoy and women fully understand why women enjoy those things, while many men think that those things are boring, silly or ridiculous.

Men tend to place a high importance upon being strong and decisive (and being perceived by others as being so). Women tend to place high importance upon sensitivity, compassion and concern for the feelings of others, and they tend to place less importance upon whether someone else perceives them as being strong.

Women are often more gentle in spirit than men. Women tend to be more law-abiding than men. Men seem to take more risks than women. Stability and security today are more important to a woman than to a man. Striving for and planning for potential achievements of tomorrow are generally more important to a man than to a woman. Women are generally more concerned about the more minute details of their physical appearance and dress than are men. Women are naturally attracted to men and it is natural for women to want to develop a romantic relationship with a man.

Generally speaking a woman is not going to have a sexual attraction to a man without there being some aspect of relationship in existence. Men are naturally attracted to women and it is natural for men to want to develop a romantic relationship with a woman. Men are visual creatures. Men can be sexually stimulated simply and quickly by the sight or thought of something erotic. It is relatively easy for a man to reach sexual climax. Men tend to have an insatiable appetite for sex and they can gladly engage in sex regardless of what circumstances or event had occurred immediately prior thereto. Generally speaking women do not have the same appetite for sex. Many women could be happy with only occasional sex. For a woman to reach sexual climax there is a need for numerous matters to be in order, e.g. the relationship, her emotions, her mood, the setting, the activities and interaction prior to anything physical, non-sexual touching, preliminary sexual touching, etc. (see Chapter 26 for a discussion about intimacy).

I have concluded that a “woman’s intuition” is a real thing. It is not simply like a man’s gut feeling or a hunch. I do believe that God has given to women an extra sense about things. Husbands will do well to carefully consider their wife’s intuition about matters. A number of years ago I wanted to pursue an investment opportunity outside of my normal profession. I figured that I had the background in law and in business and that I was in the better position to evaluate the enterprise. My dear wife had analyzed no financial data or any business plan, but she was very strong in her sentiments that the investment was a mistake and that we should not participate. Regrettably I pretty much ignored Pam’s counsel and the investment was made. It turned out to be a very bad decision and we lost a significant amount of money. I learned a number of lessons from that experience. One of them is that I had better give credence to my dear wife’s intuition about things (and to her wisdom and counsel).

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Women have a greater need to feel secure. Men have a greater need to feel important. Men are more driven by ego and have a greater tendency to sin in the area of pride and conceit. Men tend to be more direct. Men understand and do not take offense from very blunt and direct answers or directives. Men are more likely to think and work independently to solve problems and complete tasks. Women are more likely to give support to others and look for support from others. It is more important to women that they are liked by others. Women are more likely to accommodate and try to make peace. Women are more easily cut to the heart when someone expresses disapproval or dislike for them. If a man thinks that he is on the right path or doing the right thing, he is more likely to proceed even if someone disagrees or even contends with that choice or conclusion. Men have a task-completion orientation and are less concerned about the process than in achieving the objective. Women tend to be more concerned about details and methods along the way. Women are more patient and men are more impatient.

I think it is quite humorous that a new wave of so-called experts is hitting the scene these days. These new experts have “discovered” that there are differences between men and women, and that leading, supervising, and motivating women is different than leading, supervising, and motivating men. These “experts” have also arrived at their “new” conclusions that women display different responses and reactions than men do.

Until recent decades it was universally understood and acknowledged that men and women are different. That all changed when some far out people hit the scene with some type of spurious enlightenment. Such new thinking led to high powered promotion of the idea that there are no actual differences between men and women. They espouse the very destructive tenants that if you treat men and women differently you are sexist, and that anyone holding to a position that there are differences between men and women is a bigot. Such nonsense gained widespread approval and was promoted through the media. It has now even developed to the point that many or most politicians are scared to death to acknowledge the simple truth that men and women as God created them, ARE different (yet equal).

I have included this discussion about differences between males and females in this book on marriage because I believe that the reader needs to fully acknowledge the basic truth that men and women are different and then strive to understand each other. Different does not mean wrong. Different means . . . different. Those differences between males and females are part of the complimenting that God intended in bringing the husband together with the wife. Enjoy your differences. Indeed celebrate that which makes the wife womanly, and that which makes the husband manly. The husband should encourage his wife to accentuate her womanhood and femininity. The wife should encourage her husband to be masculine. By all means the husband should not try to force the wife to act like a man or to respond like a man. Equally so, the wife should not demand that her husband act like a woman or respond like a woman.

Husband, be a man. Wife, be a woman. That is a very important **CHOICE**.