

Life, Love and Family Daily Fact Sheet
Dr. Tim Clinton

“Divinely Designed Differences”

- **4 Steps for Embracing Gender Differences:**
 - **Pray**—ask the Lord to help you as you work to understand how you and your spouse are created differently. Ask Him to help you honor your spouse and his/her differences as God-given and good.
 - **Acknowledge the Differences**—seek to see how you and your spouse respond to and see the world differently. Notice the differences and learn more about them.
 - **Communicate**—talk with your spouse about how you see, perceive, hear and feel things differently. Be open and honest about these things and seek to understand one another.
 - **Accept Gender Differences**—God created men and women differently for a reason. These differences are meant to complement one another and make you stronger and better together than you ever could be apart.

- **Practical Tips for Embracing the Differences:**
 - Turn off the radio when talking in the car.
 - After emotional situations, men typically need to be alone or respond in a physical way. Women need to be able to respond verbally. Allow for this.
 - Men need time a space to process.
 - Women need to feel free to talk to process.
 - Do not get angry when your spouse sees things differently than you do. Instead, ask more questions so that you understand better.

- **Quotes:**
 - *“I have known many happy marriages, but never a compatible one. The whole aim of marriage is to fight through and survive the instant when incompatibility becomes unquestionable. For a man and a woman, as such, are incompatible.”*—G.K. Chesterton

 - *“Let the wife make the husband glad to come home, and let him make her sorry to see him leave.”*—Martin Luther

 - *“Many marriages would be better if the husband and wife clearly understood that they are on the same side.”*—Zig Ziglar

 - *“Love is an action, an activity. It is not a feeling.”*—M. Scott Peck

 - *“Chains do not hold a marriage together. It is threads, hundreds of tiny threads which sew people together through the years.”*—Simone Signoret

 - *“There is no more lovely, friendly, and charming relationship, communion, or company than a good marriage.”*—Martin Luther

- **Key Thoughts:**

- Male and female brains are very different.
- Males and females are different from conception in the way they develop, and God meant for it to be this way.
- Men and women perceive the world differently.
- Women's brains never turn off.
- Men are able to compartmentalize and are able to think about "nothing."
- If male and female differences are not understood, they can lead to divisiveness, anger, fights and divorce.
- God has designed us to be stronger together than we ever could be apart.

- **Verses:**

- *"Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good for the man to be alone; I will make him a helper suitable for him.'"*—**Genesis 2:18**
- *"God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them."*—**Genesis 1:27**
- *"For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh."*—**Genesis 2:24**
- *"In the same way, you wives, be submissive to your own husbands so that even if any of them are disobedient to the word, they may be won without a word by the behavior of their wives."*—**1 Peter 3:1**
- *"You husbands in the same way, live with your wives in an understanding way, as with someone weaker, since she is a woman; and show her honor as a fellow heir of the grace of life, so that your prayers will not be hindered."*—**1 Peter 3:7**
- *"Husbands, love your wives and do not be embittered against them."*—**Colossians 3:19**
- *"Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in perseverance."*—**Titus 2:2**
- *"Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good, so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored."*—**Titus 2:3-5**