

## Women are Funny Creatures

Yes, women are funny creatures. A woman will hide her feelings, mulling them over until she thinks herself into worry. She worries about her problems; she worries about her family, she worries about her church, her neighbors, and her job. Left unchecked, her worry turns into depression. She masks her pain, deceiving herself and everyone else, until she is ready to explode at the slightest provocation. &nbsp; Does this sound like someone you know? Perhaps it is your wife. Remarkably, you, her husband, make a greater difference in her life than anyone does. By learning about a few basic needs unique to a woman's nature, you can help her develop into the wonderful creature God designed her to be, the one you married so long ago.&nbsp;&nbsp;  &nbsp;  A woman releases her pent up emotions through talking about her feelings. This is how she finds solutions. Generally, she will not open up until she feels she cannot endure any more pressure. It is important that she have someone she can trust, someone who will really listen when she is ready to share her feelings. &nbsp;  She needs a husband who will allow her to expose her heart safely, and reveal her inward self. If you will not listen to her without criticism, judgment, or rejection, she will withdraw and find someone else to share this part of her life. Consequently, your marriage will suffer the loss of intimacy and trust. Although a husband with a compassionate ear is rare, you can learn the art of listening. &nbsp;  Why do women do this? Who really knows? Why do men not understand women? The best answer is that God wired us both differently. It is human nature to believe that everyone sees the world as we do. Men are especially guilty of thinking that women should think and behave a certain way just because that is how they themselves would do it. It is like bananas and strawberries. Both are fruit, but each has its own shape, flavor, and texture. By themselves, they taste good. However, mix them together and you have a wonderful fruit salad, yet each part keeps its own unique characteristics. &nbsp;  Marriage is like that fruit salad. A man and a woman, each with unique shapes, textures, and flavors, are good by themselves. Nevertheless, mix them together and you have a completely new creation. Yet, each one is still an individual. &nbsp;  Normally, when a man hears his wife cry, he embraces her and wants to help solve her problems. Once she gets a few intelligible words out through her sniffles, he holds his head back, sometimes he is even dumb enough to laugh, and he not too wisely says, "Oh, is that all? That's simple. This is what you need to do." &nbsp;  He is dumbfounded when she stops talking, looks at him and clearly says, "Never mind! I'll figure it out myself," and walks away with her hands up in the air. Now she is angry and frustrated as well as depressed. &nbsp;  He has no idea why she did not throw her arms around him, plant a big kiss on him, and thank him for all his wisdom. Men are ready to offer women a solution after hearing a few facts. Never mind that they heard on a fraction of the details. They do not need to hear it all. They have the answers and they want women to accept and act on them. Usually their answers are correct, if not appreciated. &nbsp;  The resulting argument puts pressure on an already strained relationship. What men fail to understand is that women do not want the answers given to them. That defeats the purpose. Men get aggravated when women reject their quick fixes. &nbsp;  God designed your wife to hold her emotions in, releasing them as she speaks. Through talking, she verbalizes her feelings. Her emotions begin to unwind, her mind starts to loosen, and confusion dissipates, allowing her to recognize the solution staring her in the face. You probably offered the same solution. Nevertheless, because of her tangled emotions she just was not ready to hear it. &nbsp;  &nbsp;  So many marriage problems could be resolved if we all understood one simple fact. God made each gender different. Our desires are different, our thinking processes are different, and our needs are different. Each gender has specific needs. Understanding them can help us make great strides in relating to one another.&nbsp;  &nbsp;  There are four things that every woman needs for security and a sense of completeness in marriage. When understood you can make a big difference in your marriage, revolutionize your home, changing the atmosphere from disappointment, confusion, and indifference to one of harmony and oneness of spirit and purpose. &nbsp;  The first thing your wife needs from you is the steady guidance of a spiritual leader. As a strong spiritual leader, you can fill many of her needs. Spiritual leadership reveals a man's spiritual condition and shows the direction he is going. &nbsp;  A wife aches for leadership when her husband fails to be the spiritual leader. God did not design her to take on the pressure of spiritual leadership of the family. If you fail here, you expose her to pressure not meant for her. She feels that her life is out of control. The resulting fear and helplessness forces her to make decisions she should not have to make. Then she has to accept the consequences and sometimes the blame from you if she makes the wrong choice. &nbsp;  As her spiritual leader, she needs to see that you have a real desire to know God. She sees this when you read his word, pray, pay tithes, and faithfully attend church. She needs to see that you have strong convictions based on Scripture and that you consistently follow your convictions. &nbsp;  You must reassure your wife that she is meeting needs in your life that no other woman can meet. This is the second important need universal to all women. She needs to feel special. God made her to be your "helpmate." The needs that she is meeting in your life must be important to you. The more impor&Acirc;&shy;tant they are, the more you should compliment and appreciate her. &nbsp;  A man has the tendency to hide his real needs from his wife, wanting her to admire him and see him as a success. Before you have her honor, however, she must see your humility. You will receive and hold her love more quickly by sharing your failures with her than you will by sharing only your successes. You must not only explain your needs, but you should help her understand exactly what she can do to help meet them. &nbsp;  There are many needs in your life that only your wife can meet. She can help you guard against other women with wrong motives. We live in a world permeated with sensuality and lust. She can give you the joy of a physical relationship without guilt. &nbsp;  Her need for security and steadfastness will make you want to make sound decisions instead of hasty ones. It grieves a man when his wife suffers because of his poor decisions. When he understands that his choices affects his whole family, he takes more time and weighs the consequences before acting rashly. &nbsp;  Your wife instills godly character in your children and discerns their real needs. She is probably with them more than you are, and as a mother, she will often have insight in their lives that you may not. She serves as a buffer during conflict and is usually a peacemaker. &nbsp;  She will become discouraged if she feels that you are more concerned with the needs of employers, employees, col&Acirc;&shy;leagues, friends, and church members, than you are with her needs and her world. She wants to be an important part of your world. If she is not, her world begins to disappoint and close in on her. &nbsp;  Third, she needs to know that you cherish her and

