

"He just won't open up to me."
"She gets all emotional about the littlest thing."

So much of the tension in our relationships comes from failing to appreciate how God created us differently as males and females. The female mind is like a freeway system, where all roads are linked and a thought traveling down one road can suddenly exit and turn down a different road. The male mind is like a thousand separate filing cabinets, each containing thoughts that belong solely to that cabinet. Men typically don't like to have too many of those cabinets open at the same time and get their thoughts and feelings mixed up. Women's minds typically function more freely and combine fact and feeling to create what we refer to as "intuition."

Men, don't assume that our minds are superior. They're not. Women, don't imagine that your way of thinking is better. It's not. Instead, God means men and women to complement each other by giving each other what we might lack as individuals. A husband needs his wife's powers of perception, and a wife needs her husband's ability to reason logically.

But besides gaining a greater appreciation of how God created us, all of us, whether married or single, benefit from the words of the apostle: "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God" (I Corinthians 10:31).

Do you find yourself feeling anger and frustration toward the people in your house? Are you constantly reminded of something your spouse may have done (or continues to do) to let you down? On top of all those facts and feelings that we have floating around in our heads, may God remind you today of all that he has done for you - forgiving your sins of selfishness, granting you peace through faith in his Son, promising you a life with him that never ends. Remember that he offers these blessings to everyone. May that knowledge influence everything that you say and do today.

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, you have created me in a most wonderful way. You have also created my family members, my friends, my neighbors, and even those people I don't like in that same wonderful way. Help me to control my thoughts so that they are more like your thoughts. Let me show your love toward those around me. Let me forgive those who wrong me. Let me appreciate each person, especially those in my own house, as the special people you created and love. In Jesus' name, Amen.

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