

Brent's Side of the Story

By Brent Page

Since Lisa and I are the Women and Men's Directors, we thought it would be fun just to talk about the differences between men and women. I know you say, "That's obvious!" No, we're not talking about physically, but "Why is she acting that way?" Or "Why did he say that, that way!" Here is a quote from one of our favorite books.

"So, how are you to understand the differences between men and women? We like to think of them this way: Men are like waffles, women are like spaghetti. At first this may seem silly, even juvenile, but stay with us. It is a picture that works and men "get it" (because it involves food)."

From the book, *Men Are Like Waffles, Women Are Like Spaghetti* by Bill and Pam Farrel

Ladies usually go first, at least that use to be called chivalry, but since we're all equal now? I'm going first. I understand this completely. I like to take care of one thing at a time. When we're "discussing" something, I don't like to move from it until that box is closed! However, Lisa seems to go on about things I hadn't even thought of!! Like, "how do the kids "feel" about that?" How do they feel about it, what does that matter. Is it right or wrong!

I'm sure you're understanding, but see the attached video for further explanation. Then come back to the next paragraph.

Here are a few things you might identify with too.

NAMES:

- If Laura, Suzanne, Debra, and Rose go out for lunch, they will call each other Laura, Suzanne, Debra, and Rose.
- If Mike, Charlie, Bob, and John go out, they will affectionately refer to each other as Fat Boy, Godzilla, Peanut-Head, and Scrappy.

EATING OUT:

- When the bill arrives, Mike, Charlie, Bob, and John will each throw in \$20, even though it's only for \$32.50. None of them will have anything smaller, and none will actually admit they want change back.
- When the girls get their bill, out come the pocket calculators.

MONEY:

- A man will pay \$2 for a \$1 item he wants.
- A woman will pay \$1 for a \$2 item on sale that she doesn't want.

BATHROOMS:

- A man has six items in his bathroom: a toothbrush, comb, shaving cream, razor, a bar of soap, and a towel from the Holiday Inn.
- The average number of items in the typical woman's bathroom is 337. A man would not be able to identify most of these items.

ARGUMENTS:

- A woman has the last word in any argument.
- Anything a man says after that is the beginning of a new argument.

CATS:

- Women love cats.
- Men say they love cats, but when women aren't looking, men kick cats.

FUTURE:

- A woman worries about the future until she gets a husband.
- A man never worries about the future until he gets a wife.

MARRIAGE:

- A woman marries a man expecting he will change, but he doesn't.
- A man marries a woman expecting that she won't change and she does.

OFFSPRING:

- Ah, children. A woman knows all about her children. She knows about dentist appointments and romances, best friends, favorite foods, secret fears and hopes and dreams.
- A man is vaguely aware of some short people living in the house.

Well, I hope you've found these insightful, if not just funny! It seems simple, that's all I've got to say about that! Now let's hear it from a different point of view... Honey...

Lisa's Side of the Story

By Lisa Page

There are differences, no doubt, in how Brent and I handle things and also how we see things. I think that Brent handles things so much better than I do, but hey, I guess that is why God gave him to me!

Brent bottom lines most of the time. I ramble most of the time! Until I have to sit down and write something out, then, my mind goes BLANK! ☺ (Okay, there was a long, dramatic pause here – all morning! – as I gathered my thoughts. Hey, maybe that is why my mind goes blank, my thoughts are all over the place and I need to find them!)

Brent and I are both extroverts in our strongest type of personality. Brent is choleric. I am sanguine. We are extremely compatible. God knew that, too. Sure we had to work at things, and still do. But we are also blessed in our relationship.

One of the things that drew me to Brent, besides his rugged good looks, was his confidence. While, in my family, unconditional love was truly practiced within our home, we did not have much confidence outside in the big world! Home was where I definitely felt confident and safe and loved. Brent was safe, loving, and confident EVERYWHERE!

I think a LOT of times, we keep each other SANE! ☺ No, really! There are times that I need to be calmed. And Brent can just walk in the room and I know everything is or will be okay. He just has a calming, peacefulness presence about him. The strength and the confidence of the Lord radiates in and through him. I am thankful for that!

We always joke that on his tombstone, I am going to put, "I made good time!" Because, he always says that – it is important to him that we made good, efficient use of our time.

He says that on my tombstone, he is going to put, "Have Fun!" I always say that – even when the kids are heading out the door on their way to work. It is important to me that everyone is happy and laughing. I want to make people laugh.

So, like Bill and Pam Farrel say, "It was in God's plan to make us different from each other from the moment He imagined us. The original plan was to use these differences as a starting point for building intimate, fulfilling relationships. Unfortunately, what started out as an advantage has turned out to be a universal source of frustration."

God made the differences to add strength to our lives. We grow as we learn to appreciate the differences God has made in us.