

REFLECT

1. How would you answer a boy who asked, “What does it mean to be a man?”
2. How would you answer a girl who asked, “What does it mean to be a woman?”

ENCOUNTER

Men and women are different. We all know that, but how do we define those differences, especially from the Bible? Pastor and Theologian Kevin DeYoung (and father of nine) wants his children to be able to know five ways men and women are different according to God’s design.

This study is adapted from Kevin’s article “How Men and Women are Different.”¹ and book *Men and Women in the Church*. Kevin said, “Though we can label these differences A, B, C, D, and E, at the risk of being confusing, let’s consider each in the order they are revealed in Scripture and not in alphabetical order.”

3. *Eager Posture*. Read Genesis 2:16-17 and 19-20. What do we learn about the eager posture of men in the instructions given to the man? What does the creation of woman in Genesis 2:18 teach about her eager posture?

¹ Kevin DeYoung, “How Men and Women are Different,” 9Marks Journal, December 19, 2019, <https://www.9marks.org/article/how-are-men-and-women-different/>

4. *Body*. What does Leviticus 18:22 teach about the design of our bodies? If you have time, see how Romans 1:26-27 and 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 reinforce the power of sex.
5. *Appearance*. Setting aside some of the cultural questions, what do we learn about male and female appearance from 1 Corinthians 11:6, 13-15?
6. *Demeanor*. Read 1 Thessalonians 2:7-8 & 11-12. How is the demeanor of men and women different?
7. *Character*. Read 1 Peter 3:1-7. What is the crowning characteristic of women? What is the crowning characteristic of men?

TRANSFORM

8. What did you need to hear most from this week’s sermon?

PRAYER REQUESTS

One More Disciple: Who are you praying for to trust Christ?

Yes, the cultural winds are blowing stiff and strong against the church on these issues. But the good news is that behind us lies a massive river of divine design in every human person. Ultimately, God’s created order cannot be reengineered by sinful human ingenuity. Manhood and womanhood will reassert themselves.

The question is whether it will be healthy or unhealthy. God made us as men and women to act like men and women. The more we see in nature (partly) and

in God's word (mainly) what it means to be men and women, the better our marriages, our children, our churches, and our society will be.

~ Kevin DeYoung, Men and Women in the Church, page 129 ~