

HANDOUT MODULE TWO

Why is everything not perfect in any marriage

A. Men and women are different

These are generalisations and not all of these things are true of all men or all women. But the truth is that men and women are different.

Most Men	Most Women
enjoy tasks	enjoy relationships
need time to think	need to talk
need to be admired by their wife	need to trust their husband
are concerned about facts	are concerned about feelings
Gain self-esteem from being respected	Gain self-esteem from being loved
need domestic support	need financial support
need sexual fulfilment	need affection
say 'i love you' to get sex	Give sex to hear 'i love you'
are stimulated by sight of wife	are stimulated by personality of husband

Most women

- Have low self-esteem – even the most beautiful women often feel unattractive suffer from fatigue – from caring for children, looking after their home and more
- Feel absence of tender romantic love
- Live with moods relating to their monthly bodily cycle

Most men

- Feel they need more sexual fulfilment
- Need to solve everyone's problems including their wife's
- Desire constant admiration
- Have a wandering eye for other attractive women – even when happily married

B. We can come into marriage with different expectations

Various things influence our expectations from marriage – including differences of the culture of the community we were raised in, how our parents modelled family and our personalities.

C. Money issues

There are three ways couples handle money. Mine, Yours or ours.

D. Not equally yoked spiritually

You can have a married couple who are both Christians but have different expectations about their Christian life. This can lead to huge tensions within a marriage.

E. Satan

We can blame satan for too much in our lives. But it is true that the devil wants to destroy Christian marriages. a failed Christian marriage is a great weapon for satan to use with unbelievers.

But there is hope! That is why all the next handouts are all about how to enrich your marriage.