

Empowering women with the gospel

Julia Jones

'Over the years I have come to see from Scripture and from life that manhood & womanhood are the beautiful handiwork of a good & loving God. He designed our differences and they are profound. They go to the root of our personhood.'

John Piper

Sue Palmer, ex head teacher, author of around 250 books, educational & political adviser, listed as being amongst the top most influential people in London, writes that,

'modern society has failed to recognise that men are naturally wired to be the providers for the family, while women are wired to be those who care for children. Men are organisers or 'systemisers' (the S-type quality), while women are 'empathisers' (the E-type quality).'

Dr James D. Mallory, a medical director of a Christian psychiatric hospital, *For men; their well-being is primarily determined by perceived success at work, they have a superior capacity to analyse without becoming side-tracked, they need respect & to be considered competent, language is primarily used to express ideas & concepts & to maintain status; security is sought in achievement, home is a place to relax, tune out & not have to perform. These qualities result in enhanced capacity to take action, to respond to competition & to win.*

For women; their well-being is primarily determined by the quality of their relationships, they have a superior capacity to detect feelings & non-verbal cues, they have a need to express feelings & experience love, they use language especially to build relationships, security is more often sought through relationships than achievement, home is perceived as the place where significant communication should take place. These qualities result in enhanced capacities for understanding, nurturing & affirming.

'How glorious that he (God) carefully planned the female body and mind for successful nurturing, and the male body and mind for successful leadership....we are made to complement each other.'

'God's design for women.

Sharon James

Planning an Event/Group

Meeting 1

Begin by praying that our Creator God will give you creativity and wisdom as you plan together

1. Who are we aiming at?

2. What sort of event/group may be appropriate?

Come up with lots of ideas – then decide which you're going to plan

3. What do we hope to achieve from this event/group?

e.g. conversion at event, spiritual conversations, developing contacts with conversions in future, church attendance etc

4a. What elements should it contain? Why? (you choose as appropriate)

e.g. food, message, activity, challenge, testimony, dressing up!

4b. Anything it shouldn't contain? Why not? (you choose as appropriate)

e.g. 'religious' acts – worship, singing, grace; children present

5. Who will be involved in organising, planning, setting up, clearing up, providing things, praying (before event), speaking etc.

Name names! Volunteers now and those you'll ask to help

Talk to church leaders & pray for continued guidance

Getting Started – The Practicalities

Meeting 2

Pray for God's continued help

1. Date and time for event / first meeting

2. What are we going to do?
Speaker if needed
Equipment

3. Rooms - if using
Which will we use?
How do they need setting up?
Who will do this?
Any special decor / lighting / equipment needed?

4. Food (if relevant)
What?
Who will provide, organise donations?
Who will serve at event?
Tables, if using, how many, covering / decoration?
Paper tableware etc needed? - who will purchase?

5. Setting up / clearing up - *When and who will do it?*

6. Publicity - *Title, other wording*
Who will produce it, distribute it?
Who will I invite?
Integrity – make it plain what to expect

7. How will we follow up those who show interest?

8. Who will keep the church informed so that all can pray?

Pray for arrangements and impact on lives