

July 29, 2023



GOD SPEAKS BOTH LANGUAGES

“What are you talking about?”

Tim was 15 years old and had just started “dating.” (Of course, this “dating” consisted primarily of talking on the phone and telling his girlfriend that he really liked her.)

One particular time when Tim’s girlfriend was telling him about her day, in the greatest detail, he sort of—well—fell asleep on the phone with her. You can imagine how upset she was when she found out that he had fallen asleep. How had she found out? He had started to snore! He tried to explain to her that he didn’t need to hear about her day in quite so much detail, but she just couldn’t understand it at all.

Men and women, or guys and girls, speak a different language from one another. Anyone who has had Tim’s and his girlfriend’s experience can probably testify that this is a pretty valid idea. However, a Christian can add something to this idea: “God speaks both languages!”

While none of you are planning marriage any time soon, here is some advice: God can help you understand the other gender! Why would He want to do that? Simply because God loves it when people communicate, and especially when they get around to communicating about Him and His love for them.

When you begin to look for that person with whom you would like to spend a great deal of time, it is important that the relationship with God that you both have be a prominent part of your relationship. In fact, some really good advice is that you should be able to pray with the person with whom you want to have a long-lasting relationship. It probably won’t solve all the miscommunication, but it surely will help!



Sabbath

FOR STUDY

- » **Memory Text:** “He created them male and female, and blessed them and called them Mankind in the day they were created” (Genesis 5:2, NKJV).
- » **Our Beliefs, no. 6, Creation:** “The first man and woman were made in the image of God as the crowning work of Creation, given dominion over the world, and charged with responsibility to care for it.”
- » Ellen G. White, *Thoughts From the Mount of Blessing*, pp. 76-78

Sunday

RESPONDING

- » Read Genesis 2:15-24.
- » First, think about how girls would react to this situation. Then think how a group of guys would react: You’re sitting in class, and your friend (of the same gender) walks in. You know that your friend has been talking with someone of the opposite gender. They are visibly upset, red eyes, splotchy face, etc. You are concerned, and you look to your group of friends who are all around you. Since the teacher has not yet entered into the classroom, you have some time to react. You are a girl; what do you do? You are a guy; what do you do?
- » It will be interesting to see if the answers are the same for both.

Monday

BIBLE ANSWERS ON CREATION

- » Isaiah 45:12; Colossians 1:16.
- » Everything was created by God. Men, women, and the things that make them different. Even though men and women are unique, they are each made in God’s image. And all of us are to live our lives to bring glory and honor to the One who created us.
- » Describe the different ways (features, characteristics, traits, qualities) human beings reflect the image of God.

- » What are some things you do to bring honor and glory to God?

- » Fill in the blanks. The verse is from the New King James Version.

“Then God said, ‘Let Us _____ man in Our _____, according to Our _____; let them have _____ over the _____ of the sea, over the _____ of the air, and over the _____, over all the earth and over every _____ that creeps on the earth.’ So God _____ man in His own image; in the _____ He created him; _____ and _____ He _____ them. Then God _____ them, and God said to them, ‘Be _____ and _____; _____ the earth and _____ it; have _____ over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every _____ thing that moves on the _____’ ” (Genesis 1:26-28).

Tuesday

REFLECTING

- » Read Isaiah 45:18.
- » You are coming to a time in your life that you have to make decisions concerning what you want out of your relationships with other people, male or female. God has set some boundaries that can guide us when it comes to relationships with the other gender. Not only this, but it is also important to try to understand the differences God created in guys and girls. Not only do these differences make us sometimes difficult for each other, but also they make us curious about each other. Cultivating great friendships is a fun thing to do, and it also helps us when we decide to become closer with someone of the other gender!
- » Your job in the next few years is to begin to create an idea of what you are looking for in someone you will choose to spend your life with. The more you understand the differences between guys and girls, the better off you will be when you begin that long search of finding someone whom you can truly understand and who can understand you.

Thursday

CONNECTING

- » Read Ephesians 2:10.
- » Review the memory text.
- » Where are you when it comes to relationships with the other gender? Are you interested? too busy? annoyed? Remember, as you head into your teen years, this is the time to learn how young Christians relate to the other gender in positive, affirming, and respectful ways. The truth is, we are all created in God's image, and He loves each one of us, regardless of what gender we are. In fact, He's the one who made us who we are!

Wednesday

BIBLE INSIGHTS

» Look up the following texts and write a brief description for each person.

	Person	Text	Brief Description
1.	Abram (Abraham)	Genesis 12:1-6	
2.	Eve	Genesis 2:19-24	
3.	Isaac	Genesis 22:1-11; Genesis 25:25-28	
4.	Sarai (Sarah)	Genesis 11:28-31; Genesis 12:10-15; Genesis 16:1-6; Genesis 18:11-14	
5.	Jacob	Genesis 25:26-34	
6.	Rebekah	Genesis 24:12-20; Genesis 24:61-66	
7.	Esau	Genesis 25:25-34	
8.	Rachel	Genesis 29:5-7; Genesis 29:16-18	
9.	Joseph	Genesis 37:2-4; Genesis 39:1-3; Genesis 39:6	
10.	Ruth	Ruth 1:15-17; Ruth 2:16-18	
11.	David	1 Samuel 16:23; 1 Samuel 16:12	
12.	Esther	Esther 2:6-8; Esther 2:14-18; Esther 4:14-16	
13.	Nabal	1 Samuel 25:9-11	
14.	Abigail	1 Samuel 25:3 1 Samuel 25:14-31	
15.	James	Mark 3:16-18	
16.	Jezebel	1 Kings 21:23-26; 2 Kings 9:30-35	
17.	John	Mark 3:16-18; John 20:1-8	
18.	Dorcas	Acts 9:36	
19.	Peter	Matthew 14:27-31; Matthew 16:16-19; Matthew 26:72-75	
20.	Eunice	2 Timothy 1:5	

Friday

APPLYING

- » Read Psalm 148:5.
 - » Text, phone, or chat with two people, one guy and one girl, and ask them each the following questions. Make sure to write down their responses in the space given so you have a great view of the differences between guys and girls.
1. What is your favorite type of outdoor game?
 - a. Guy _____
 - b. Girl _____
 2. What do you like to do in your free time?
 - a. Guy _____
 - b. Girl _____
 3. What do the words "I like you" mean to you?
 - a. Guy _____
 - b. Girl _____

4. What is the first thing that attracts you to someone?
 - a. Guy _____
 - b. Girl _____
5. How much time do you spend on your cell phone or on social media each day talking to friends?
 - a. Guy _____
 - b. Girl _____
6. Why do you think it is important that young people wait until they are mature and have prepared for adult life before they start dating and courting? In what ways are girls and boys prepared for a responsible love relationship with someone of the opposite gender?
 - a. Guy _____
 - b. Girl _____

» As you think about and find answers to these questions, remember you are created in the image of God. You want to be sure that when it comes time to finding a husband or wife that you ask the questions that will help you to determine what their relationship with God is like.

