

Lesson Exercise Instructions

Assume that the following manuscript is a lesson from a manual that you have been assigned to edit. Your main purpose is to help express the author's intended message as clearly as possible. To that end, we ask you to do two things:

1. Correct all errors. These include (but are not limited to) errors in spelling, format, capitalization, punctuation, syntax, and quotations.
2. Improve the wording of sentences that have ambiguity, redundancy, wordiness, ineffective passive voice, and lack of coherence. Also improve passages that are trite, awkward, vague, or weak. Evaluate whether a passage is phrased too personally or too impersonally and whether it is overstated or understated.

Although many sentences will need significant editing and some might even need rewriting, do not introduce new ideas, change meaning, or rewrite or retype the entire lesson. Approach each sentence with the mindset of simply determining if there is a more clear, concise way to express the author's intended message.

You may use dictionaries, usage guides, and style guides for this exercise. However, it is not necessary to follow any particular style guide, such as MLA or *The Chicago Manual of Style*. Simply ensure that the style and format are consistent throughout the lesson.

There is not a time limit on this exercise. However, we ask that you keep track of your time and record it on the first page, along with your name. Typically, applicants spend four to six hours.

Gretchen Picklesimer Kinney
5 hours

Differences and
Their Management
in Marriage

Managing Differences in Marriage

"Finally, be ye all of one mind ³ having compassion one
of
for another." (1 Peter ^{3:8} 4:8.)

OBJECTIVE

To help the class members realize that husband and wife
differences can be understood, accepted, and managed to
the benefit of the marriage.
understanding, accepting, and managing differences benefits marriage.

ITEMS FOR

PREPARATION

1. Display the scripture for this lesson ¹ 1 Peter 3:8 ⁵
in front of the class on a ^{poster} ~~postre~~ or ^{on} the chalkboard.
2. Prepare a chart ^{listing possible differences between husbands and wives.} displaying the list of the ways in
which a husband and wife may differ from each other.
3. ^{Provide a} Pencil and paper for each class member.

SUGGESTED

LESSON

Introductory

DEVELOPMENT

Activity

Differences Are a Reality in the Marriage Relationship

Differences are a reality of life, ^{including in:} and love and marriage.
^{Husbands and wives can understand, accept, and manage differences to benefit their marriage.}
are no exception. Differences of many kinds do exist
between husbands and wives, and these differences can
be understood, accepted and managed to the benefit of
the marriage. In 1 Peter we read, "Finally, be ye all
of one mind, having compassion one of another . . ."
(1 Peter 3:8.)

Chart

Display the chart listing ^{these possible differences between a husband and a wife:} the following ways which a
husband and wife may differ with each other.

1. Physical differences (strength, size, shape, etc.)
2. Emotional differences (disposition, ^{temperament} ~~temperament~~, ^{affectionateness} ~~demonstration~~ of affection), etc.
3. Personality traits (sense of ^{humor} ~~humour~~, tidiness, talkativeness, etc.)
4. Intellectual abilities ~~x~~
5. Talents and skills ~~x~~
6. Past experiences (^{environment} ~~environment~~, schools, friends, etc., ^{home routines} ~~routines of the home~~) ~~x~~
7. ^{Personality and sociability} ~~Personal and social functional effectiveness~~
8. ^{Lifestyle} ~~Life style~~ (^{food preferences} ~~preference for foods~~, recreational activities, etc.)

Discussion ASK: What are other possible differences between husbands and wives?
 Question ~~What are other ways, in which husbands and wives may differ, that are not included.~~ (Add these to the chart with a ^{marker} ~~marking pen~~).

Teacher Before marriage, couples often overlook ^{especially} ~~those~~ ^{differences} which may lead to conflict
 Presentation or discomfort ~~are often overlooked by a couple prior to marriage.~~ ^{couples often reverse this tendency, and the accentuated differences result in conflict.} After marriage ~~this tendency is often reversed~~ and the differences are accentuated with resultant conflict.

After speaking the marriage vows, ^{couples often} ~~there is often strong~~ inclination to ^{assume} ~~assume~~ that ^{they must eliminate} many of their differences must be eliminated ^{in order to maintain harmony} if harmony is to be maintained.

Relatively minor differences, such as food preferences or political ^{persuasions} ~~persuasion~~, may cause conflict if one or the other ^{tries} ~~try~~ to convert his ^{or her} spouse to his ^{or her} own way of thinking. Consequently, ^{negative} ~~negative~~ feelings, ^{which} ~~that~~ are potentially harmful to the relationship, may easily become a stum-

ling block to the flow of love and harmony between the
^{spouses}
~~marital partners.~~

Guidelines for Coping with
 Differences in a Conflictive Marriage

Guidelines that Can Help a Marriage That Is Experiencing
Conflicts Learn to Cope with Differences.

Teacher
 Presenta-
 tion

~~The following guide lines for coping with differences~~
~~will be discussed in the marriage relationship.~~

(I thought this sentence
 was redundant.)

- Identify and acknowledge differences.
 1. ~~Differences should be identified and acknowledged.~~
- Accept some differences without change.
 2. ~~Some differences need to be excepted rather than~~
~~changed.~~
- Modify some differences to strengthen marriage.
 3. ~~Some differences need to be modified for the sake~~
~~of enhancing the marriage relationship.~~

switch #2
 and #3 in
 the outline
 to match
 the actual
 order

^{could be helpful}
 (It ~~would be well~~ to list these guidelines on the
 chalkboard for reference during ~~the~~ discussion.)

Identifying and Acknowledging Differences
Differences Should Be Identified and Acknowledged

Discussion
 Question

ASK: How ^{can} ~~may~~ acknowledging and identifying differences
^{spouses} between ~~the marriage partners~~ ^{benefit} be ~~beneficial~~ to the marri-
 age ~~relationship?~~ ?

Teacher
 Presenta-
 tion

Some couples might maintain ^{that they do not have any differences} ~~there had been no diff-~~
^{their} erences between ~~them~~ in ~~the~~ marriage. Such an ^{observation} ~~obser-~~
^{compatibility} ~~van-~~ce is more likely based on indifference than on ~~com-~~
^{cannot} ~~patability.~~ There is no way ~~for~~ two people to live
 together for even a few weeks without ~~there being an~~

^{occurring}
~~occurrence of significant differences~~ between them. ~~Dif-~~
^{Spouses need to honestly and realistically identify differences}
~~ferences, which exist between spouses need to be honestly~~
~~and realistically identified~~ so that these differences ^{do not} ~~may~~
^{influence}
~~not be unknowingly influencing~~ negative feelings in the
^{or interfere}
~~relationship nor interfere with the~~ feelings of love and
^{Acknowledging} ^{existence}
~~devotion. Acknowledgement of the existence of differ-~~
^{spouses} ^{sets}
~~ences between the husband and wife set the stage for~~
^{managing these}
~~what the couple might do for management of the differ-~~
^{After acknowledging these differences,}
~~ences in a constructive way. Although the differences~~
~~have been acknowledged~~ the couple can ~~than~~ discuss what
^{about these differences.}
~~they wish to do.~~

At the beginning of this lesson ~~(Refer to the chart.)~~ we
^{general}
 acknowledged and identified some ~~of the~~ ways a husband
 and wife may differ ~~in general terms~~. Each couple ^{will} ~~will~~
^{specific}
 need to identify their own ^{specific} differences ~~in more specific~~
~~terms~~
~~terms.~~

Modifying Differences to
Strengthen Marriage

~~Some differences Need to Be Modified to Strengthen The~~ ~~Marriage Relationship~~

Discussion

Question

ASK: Why is it important for each partner to be willing
^{in order to enhance the}
 to modify differences ~~for the sake of enhancement of the~~
~~marriage relationship?~~

ASK: What are the dangers of a partner ^{believing} ~~taking the attitude~~
^{efforts} ^{differences}
~~that all modifications to overcome differences must~~
 be made by his or her spouse?

Occasionally, deciding ^{instead of change, differences} ~~Occasionally the decision to accept differences without~~
~~change~~ may cause conflict if ^{spouses do not} ~~they don't~~ agree as ^{on} ~~to~~
^{should or should not change} what each can accept as ~~unchangable~~. The general tend-
 Generally, ~~ency~~ of most people ~~is to~~ assume the other person is the
 one who should modify his ^{or her} patterns or change his ^{or her} behavior
 in order to ease or eliminate the conflict. (The specifics ^{unrelated to the topic}
~~of the problem solving process will be discussed in the~~
~~next 2 lessons.~~) ^{A humble attitude} An ~~attitude~~ of humility is very conduc-
 tive to conflict resolution. When a ^{spouse} ~~marriage partner~~ can
 admit that it is his or her own behavior that should change,
 say, "maybe I am the one whose behavior should change."
^{or she} ~~he is the expression of~~ ^{exemplifies} a true christian ^{spirit, a humble attitude, and a readiness for growth.} ~~spirit and an~~
~~attitude suggestive of readiness for growth and of humi-~~
~~lity.~~

insert line break here

Accepting Differences without Change

Some Differences Need to Be Accepted Without Change

Discussion What are some ~~of~~ the differences that ^{should} ~~need to~~ be accepted
 Question ^{instead of changed} ~~without change?~~
 Teacher ^{spouses acknowledge} After differences between the husband and wife are acknowl-
 Presenta- ^{which} ~~edged,~~ the next step is to determine ~~what~~ differences have
 tion ^{should} ~~got to~~ be accepted ^{instead of changed.} ~~without efforts to change them being~~
~~made.~~ These differences can serve as resources for ~~each~~
^{complement} ~~partners to be a compliment to the~~ ^{each} ~~other in the marriage~~
~~relationship.~~
^{experience} Past ~~experience~~ can be one source of differences. Each
^{is} ~~person is~~ limited to a certain extent by what ^{he or she has or has not} ~~we have or~~
~~have not~~ experienced in the past. A partner who ^{has} ~~had~~ never
^{touched} ~~been on~~ a pair of ^{skis} ~~skis~~ can hardly be expected to know

note: I felt like the ski metaphor language was a little clunky, so I changed it a little. I tried to keep the sense of the original metaphor.

on the first try
how to ski. For example, limitations in ^{physical} skill may be annoying if a person were skilled with playing tennis and wants to enjoy the sport with his ^{or her} spouse who lacks the necessary ^{Spouses may differ} co-ordination. Not only ^{in past} part experience but also ⁱⁿ physical skill and ^{coordination} co-ordination may be limited. These kinds of differences between spouses often cannot be eliminated and can be only modified slightly. Instead of changing these differences, spouses should accept and live with these differences. Some differences that exist between marriage partners and need to be accepted and lived with rather than changed.

insert line break here

Discussion ASK: What types of ^{complementary} differences may ^{can} strengthen the marriage? ^{relationship} because of their ^{complimenting} effect in the marriage relationship? ^{TP} Differences in food tastes or ^{preferences} preferences can lead to ^{a varied diet} variety in the diet. Differences in recreational activities can ^{induce} induce one or both partners to learn new skills. Differences in talents and capabilities ^{improve home and family life.} can produce breadth of potential functioning around the home and for the family.

Class Member^s Ask the class members to share examples of complementing Experiences differences in their marriages.

Teacher The Process of Handling Conflicts in Marriage Require
Presnta- the Best Efforts of Each Partner.

tion The intensity with which people value their free agency is a complicating faecture of them deciding to willingly change personal behavior. To compromise--

"Teacher Presentation" should line up with the new paragraph

the yield to the preferences or wishes of another, or to shift one's own thinking and attitudes--are apt to make us feel a loss of free agency. It is this fear of the loss of free agency which often accounts for the resistency to be co-operative when a couple is in the process of trying to decide how to negotiate conflictual differences

Discussion
Questions

Ask: Why does the decision or judgement when to retain an attitude or behavior and when to relinquish it for the sake of peace in the marriage requires maturity and wisdom?

Teacher
Presenta-
tion

Neither the lowering of one's standards nor the lessening of one's self-respect are to be allowed for the sake of greater harmony in the marriage. Moral and religious standards are to be maintained and individual identity and integrity preserved as differences among partners are resolved.

Chalk board
Discussion

Three different actions or a combination of them can be followed when marriage partners attempt to deal constructively with existing differences between them. (List the underscored portions of the options or alternatives on the chalkboard.)

1. Compromise by accepting a mid-point between two extremes. If the difference causing dissention was one of

attitude about the strictness versus leniency regarding discipline in raising children the compromise would be to decide on an appropriate point between the two extremes.

Invite class members to share successes in their relationships when this was applied.

2. Compromise by taking turns. One's preference can be followed on one occasion, while the partner's preference will be honoured on the next occasion.

Once again, invite class members to share successes, where this principle has been applied in their relationships.

3. Compromise by yielding a position or attitude for the sake of harmony without feeling that one is a winner and one a loser.

Ask the class, how may the application of this principle contribute to a strengthened husband-wife relationship and help the parts to "be one?"

<p>CLASS</p> <p>ASSIGNMENT</p>	<p>Identify the differences between you and your spouse. Next sort them into two categories. First, list those, which you may utilize for the benefit of both of you (for example, the husband's ability at carpentry, and the wife's artistic ability.) Next, have the class members list those that cause uneasiness, friction, misunderstanding or contention. Have them consider those differences in the second category which are basically negotiable (in other words, they can be modified or</p>
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compromised and those which are basically non-negotiable (can't be changed by either person, such as family background of each).

If time allows the class assignment may be started in class.

RESOURCE

MATERIALS

"Give me understanding and I shall keep ^{thy} ~~the~~ law; yea, I shall observe it with my whole heart" (^{Psalm} ~~Psalms~~ 119:34).

"The family as an institution is under tremendous pressure. It is important to know, ^{therefore} ~~therefor~~, that the family is a problem-solving unit. The husband and the wife ^{cannot} ~~can~~ not generate more problems than they can solve if they will follow the counsel the Lord has given. The solution to family problems is not ^{separation} ~~separating~~, but repentance." (^{A. Theodore Tuttle} ~~Theodore Tuttle~~, Conference Report, Oct. 1969, ¹³² ~~p. 133.~~).

In this quote, I corrected "has" to "have" (to match the original quote) even though grammatically it should be "each has." I'm not sure whether or not this counts as a minor typographical error that can be fixed.

"A home is not a home in the eye of the gospel unless there dwell perfect ~~confidence~~ and love, union, rest, confidence, and absolute trust; . . . where the women and the man each ^{have} ~~has~~ implicit confidence in each other's honor and virtue." (^{F.} ~~Joseph Fielding~~ Smith, Gospel Doctrine, (Salt Lake City: Desert Book Co., 1968), ~~p. 302.~~).

"No marriage--no life--is free from problems. Always there are adjustments to make, things to work out."

(Richard L. Evans, ^{"To those now married--and to those about to be,"} Improvement Era, Sept. 1916, ~~p. 660.~~).

"For a couple who have basked in the sunshine of each

^{other's}
~~others~~ love to stand by and see the clouds of misunder-
 standing and ^{discord}~~discord~~ obscure the ^{love-light}~~love-light~~ of their
 lives is tragedy indeed. (David O. MacKay, Conference ^{Shouldn't be underlined}
 Report, Apr. 1969; p. 8.)

Items for

Advanced

Preparation

In preparation for lesson 9--

1. Write Doctrine and Covenants 131:31 on the chalk board prior to class period, or prepare it on a poster to be displayed.
2. Prepare a card to hand-out to each couple containing the guidelines found in Lesson 9 (pg. 8.)
3. Have a class member be prepared to play prelude music as the class enters the room or arrange for the music to be played on a taperecorder or phonograph.