



~ 5 MORE ~

THINGS MEN NEED TO KNOW ABOUT WOMEN!

Diane Fink, Educational Resource Director...accepting Pastor Mike's challenge to come up with 5 more things!

Here are Pastor Mike's "5 Things" – *from a woman's perspective!*

1. NO BEHAVIOR IS BEYOND ME.

While I can be very tender, caring, and understanding, there are also times when I can be hard as nails. Like when I've been hurt. The scenario is familiar: You come home and realize all is not well in my world. The curt hello, obligatory peck on the cheek, icicles hanging from each word. To your genuine and heartfelt inquiry – "What's the matter, dear?" The deafening silence, then the I-dare-you-to-ask-again response: "NOTHING!" And you know there are no words you can say that will pry open the door of my heart until I'm good and ready. But don't take "nothing" for an answer. Because deep inside I really do want to tell you what's hurting me, I do want to reconnect. Sometimes expressing tenderness when you want to be justifiably angry will melt my heart quicker than you know.

2. NO ONE UNDERSTANDS ME COMPLETELY.

An understatement for the women of the world! Men have been trying to figure us out since the Garden of Eden...and from your frustrated perspective, to no avail. But I really do understand what a challenge it is. In moments of clarity, when I'm not struggling with PMS or menopausal emotions and craziness (you'll never figure *that* out!), I do grasp the differences in the way we perceive things and the way we process things. We're wired differently – by design – God's design!

3. I WANT MORE LOVE THAN I KNOW HOW TO ASK FOR.

Maybe I ask too much. There's a deep place in my heart that longs for the security of knowing I am loved and cared for. When we connect, heart-to-heart, that knowing is more solid and my need to ask diminishes. But I'll never tire of hearing you say, "I LOVE YOU!"

4. LONELINESS IS OFTEN MY COMPANION, BUT IT'S NEVER MY FRIEND.

Sometimes I overstep my bounds in trying to draw you out and can push too hard. It's not meant to be demanding or controlling. It's my own fear of watching you slip away and the sting of separation I feel when you withdraw to a place where I sense I'm not allowed. I understand your desire to run – there are times when I want to get on my running shoes, too! But if we can at least share that much in those "processing" times, it will bring peace to both our hearts.

5. JESUS DOESN'T FIX EVERY PART OF MY LIFE BY HIMSELF.

While I have to admit there are times when being your helpmate makes me want to call in the second-string reinforcements or a designated hitter, I really am committed to being there for you and with you so that you can be all that God designed you to be. I also know that you are a gift from His hand to help me get to where He wants me. He uses us in each others lives to grow and mature so that we can move into His greater kingdom purposes.

WE ARE NOT PERFECT EITHER!