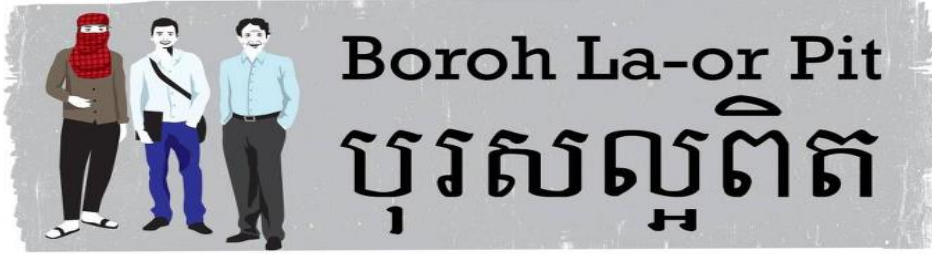


# THE JOURNEY OF A GOOD REAL MAN

## THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN

<p><b>Describe the Issue</b></p>	<p>Men need to understand the differences between men and women and know how to appreciate the qualities that women have that men do not have</p>
<p><b>Define the Problem</b>          Create small groups          After discussion ask for Group Feedback noting it on flipchart if appropriate</p>	<p>When men and women do not understand the positive aspects of their differences it can lead to conflict and great unhappiness  <b>Split the participants into small groups (max 4) and ask them to list :</b>          a) the reasons for these misunderstandings          b) the problems this causes to men.  <b>Feedback – ask for answers and then suggest any important ones they have missed e.g; a) cultural, peer pressures, bad experiences, wrong teaching, b) they fail to see good qualities of women in general and their wives in particular, they destroy their family’s happiness by treating their wives badly, their wives may fear or hate them</b></p>
<p><b>Scripture Teaching</b></p> <p><b>This is not to be intended to be used as a message to be delivered to the men.</b></p> <p><b>It is Bible information to give leaders confidence that they know enough about the subject to lead a discussion on it.</b></p> <p><b>This information may give ideas for more than one discussion</b></p>	<p><b>WHAT DOES THE BIBLE TEACH ON THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MEN AND WOMEN?</b></p> <p>1. <b>Gen 1:27 God created mankind in his own image.... male and female he created them.</b> God created both men and women to bear his image and so are to be equally respected and cared for. Why did God make 2 different kinds of human? Perhaps it was not possible for one being to fully show God’s image, especially His love</p> <p>2. One gender alone is not good. Most men need to be with someone different but equal to be truly happy and whole. <b>Gen 2:18-24</b> shows how God made Woman. <b>The LORD said, “It is not good for man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.” So the LORD formed all the wild animals and birds. He brought them to the man.....but still there was no helper just right for him. So the LORD caused the man to fall into a deep sleep and took out one of his ribs. Then the LORD made a woman from the rib and brought her to the man. This made the man really happy.</b> So men should be thankful for all the women in their lives, especially their wife.</p> <p>3. Most women are physically weaker than men. Also they are emotionally different, but many men mistakenly interpret this as another weakness. These differences should be understood not despised. Men and women have different qualities and they must try to appreciate each other.  <b>1 Peter 3:7 Husbands,..... be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers.</b>  <u>SUGGESTION</u> <b>Split the men into small groups and ask them to list and feedback positive differences between most men and women that are unique to each gender (e.g; men want to provide for their family, women express love more freely)</b></p> <p>4. Understanding these differences will lead good men to be more thoughtful, loving and helpful to their wives and other women.  <u>SUGGESTION</u> <b>Ask the whole group or the small groups to think of ways to do this – these could include :</b>          - use your strength to do heavy jobs and protect them          - in front of others show them respect and do not embarrass them (talk about disagreements in private)          - listen to them, when making decisions ask for their ideas, think about their ideas          - speak and act kindly to them, praise them often for the things they do for you and the family, buy them small gifts          - do not speak or act violently if they say or do something you do not like          - offer to help her with any jobs in the home, help look after the children          Such positive actions will cause respect and love to grow between men and women.</p>

	<p>5. Men and women are different for a reason; to bring different qualities to their family life as they support each other. Traditional cultures and modern world culture have created roles which are flawed and unbalanced. This is why in so often we see;</p> <p><b>a)</b> women being damaged by oppression, violence and exploitation by men who use their strength or authority to control them, or</p> <p><b>b)</b> women rejecting the authority of men completely, because they were treated as second class in the past, and men not knowing how to respond.</p> <p>In both cases the role of man and woman is not what it should be.</p> <p>The Bible teaches that men should lead families in ways that make women feel loved, protected, respected and empowered (<b>Proverbs 31</b> shows such a woman) There are no laws or details about how this should be done.</p> <p><b>However, there are 2 principles originating from the creation of mankind:</b></p> <p><b>1) <u>Couples should leave their parent’s control</u> to be an independent couple.</b> This also means not being controlled by culture, which was created by our ancestors. All couples are different. Instead of yielding to parental or cultural pressures each couple should put each other first, learn each other’s different qualities and develop their own successful marriage. <b>Gen 2:24</b> says <b>“That is why a man leaves his father and mother and is united to his wife, and they become one flesh”.</b></p> <p><b>2) <u>Love should grow between husband and wife.</u></b> Husbands and wives should be faithful to each other. When problems come they work together to overcome them . They should not divorce or seek another mate (from <b>Eph 5:25 husbands must love your wives with the same love Christ showed the church</b> and <b>Mal 2:16 do not be unfaithful to the wife of your youth</b>).</p>
<p><b>Group Discussion</b> See how this applies to Khmer men-note feedback on flipchart</p>	<p>Many Christian men and most other Khmer men do not follow these principles.</p> <p><b><i>Split the participants into small groups and ask them:</i></b></p> <p>a) if Christian men do not follow these teachings, how can they be helped?</p> <p>b) how should these teachings be shared with other Khmer men?</p> <p><b><i>Feedback – ask for answers and then suggest any important ones they have missed e.g; a) ask them if they are unhappy with their relationships and why, give testimony of God helping you, arrange to see a more experienced wiser person, b) same as a)</i></b></p>
<p><b>Summarise</b> How Good Real Men deal with this issue and how they can help friends and other Khmer men with this.</p>	<p>Today we have learned that men often do not understand women, which causes problems such as: *****. The answer for Christian men is *****. Then we can share this truth with others. <b><i>*(summarise the answers from the discussions)</i></b></p> <p># We realise that only by letting Jesus enter our heart can we learn how best to understand, love and care for the women in our lives</p> <p># It is good to help each other by listening to and praying for each other.</p> <p># Also we need to be humble enough to ask for help when we need it. None of us is perfect so Jesus has brought us together as brothers to help each other.</p> <p># Good friends keep things told privately to themselves. If we need help with such a friend we may to talk together with someone we trust.</p> <p># Finally it is good to ask God to give us opportunities to talk with others about God’s way to treat the women in our lives. Some may laugh when we talk about this but others will be glad we showed them the way to be helped.</p>
	<p><b><i>If you pray - include personal commitment to, a) receive the power of the Spirit to please God (but not legalistic striving to be good) b) help each other c ) seek opportunities to befriend others and share the truth with them.</i></b></p>



Journey of a BLP  
Level 1  
Module 3