I. The mysteries of the female mind

Phil 1:9 And this is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight,

II. The design differences between women and men

A. Women were created for relationship while men were created for task

Gen 2:15 The LORD God took the man and put him in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it...18. The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."

1 Cor 11:8 For man did not come from woman, but woman from man; 9 neither was man created for woman, but woman for man.

> A woman looks for her value and significance in her husband while a man looks for it in his work, ministry, or hobbies

> A man has power to either build up or crush his wife

> A woman craves relational intimacy while a man is content with companionship

> Women crave romance -- which is not about flowers and soft music -- it’s about feeling valued

> A woman wants to know she is "worth it"

B. One part of sin’s curse is that a woman has a desire her husband that he lacks for her

Gen 3:16 To the woman he said, "I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire [teshuwqah] will be for your husband, and he will rule over you."

> Women are drawn to men whom they feel offer safety & security

1 Pet 3:6 like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.

> The primary reason a woman leaves her husband is because her heart is no longer...
C. Women are by nature more vulnerable -- emotionally as well as physically.

1 Pet 3:7  Husbands, in the same way 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.

Gen 1:27  So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

1. More vulnerable to emotional influences - more easily

1 Tim 2:12  I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she must be silent. 13  For Adam was formed first, then Eve. 14  And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner.

2. A man must be considerate of his wife’s nature lest he dishearten her.

Col 3:19  Husbands, love your wives and do not be harsh with them.
1 Pet 3:7a  Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner...  
Col 3:21  Fathers, do not exasperate your children, that they may not lose heart.

3. A woman communicates from an emotional perspective

> She discusses issues because she wants to be understood -- not to

4. A man who does not see his wife as the weaker vessel will compete with her as an opponent.

> He will defend himself rather than meet her need for understanding or safety

5. Her emotions are real to her.

> Don't talk her out of them.

John 11:35  Jesus wept  
Heb 4:15  For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are--yet was without sin.

> Often, at the root of a woman’s intensity is

6. A woman may like to control -- not for ego, but because it makes her feel safe and secure.