

Holy Women

A Study Guide for Christian Ladies

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Here are thirty lessons, drawn from the lives of the women of the Bible, that will lead the sincere student into the truth of God's perfect will for the Christian woman.

A compromised pulpit, a perverse educational system, and a world gone wrong have united to lead women far from scriptural ideals of virtue. As a result, even Christian women are confused and unhappy, rather than blessed and rejoicing.

The subject matter, its clear helpful presentation, and the manner in which the student is compelled to see herself in the mirror of God's word, will make *Holy Women* a richly rewarding study for any woman who wishes to be in the very happy center of God's perfect will.

DEDICATION

This book is lovingly dedicated to all the women who have been deceived by the world into thinking liberty comes through disobedience and happiness comes through rebellion against God.

This book is lovingly dedicated to all the women who have been betrayed by ministers who taught their husbands and fathers that submission meant stupidity and that meekness meant weakness.

This book is lovingly dedicated to all the women who were raised in a Bible-less home or society, who must now look back with tears and say, "If I had only known."

This book is lovingly dedicated to all the little girls who are being sacrificed on the altar of television, to be trained by Hollywood rather than Holy God.

OUR REQUEST

The Studies in this book have been compiled to guide the sincere Christian woman into a blessed relationship with her Saviour, family and friends. It bears no copyright and is published for free distribution. Copies and reproductions may be made, provided they are for free distribution. This book was published for the profit of the reader only. Please respect our request in this matter. Thank you.

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PREFACE

You have before you thirty lessons, carefully designed and prayerfully constructed which will lead and guide the sincere woman into God's truth regarding feminine holiness and virtue.

It may surprise some who undertake these studies to find how much of the Bible is written to or about women. Several large volumes of commentary exist which deal entirely with the female characters found in the word of God. Thanks be to our heavenly Father, He has not left us in the dark on matters of such vital importance as character, conduct, spousal relations, and child raising. What a joy to know that the woman who will but believe the Bible and yield her will to the control of the Holy Spirit may live a life of virtue and honor in the eyes of God and man.

The lessons which follow will each present a series of questions on a particular theme. These questions are worded so as to compel the student to search her heart and examine, not only her actions but, her motives. The greatest profit will be derived by those who face these questions with the greatest degree of honesty.

When this study is complete, the sincere woman will know what God's word teaches, where her life needs repair or improvement, and how such corrections may be prayerfully accomplished.

Some dear ladies may be tempted to despair, for the philosophies of this world, both secular and religious, have led our generation so far from the ideal there seems little or no hope of ever reaching God's mark. Yet, the scripture declares: ***He which hath begun a good work in you WILL PERFORM IT until the day of Jesus Christ*** (Philippians 1:6). The One who made us by His wisdom and power certainly knows how to remake us by His marvelous grace.

Those who wish to profit the most from these lessons will:

1. Pray over each one and then answer every question as thoroughly as possible.
2. Be certain all answers are supported by scripture and cite references where possible.
3. During the course of this study commit Titus 2:3-5; Proverbs 31:10-31 and 1 Peter 3:1-6 to memory.
4. If you have a group of trusted friends within your local church, arrange to review these lessons together that you might learn from and pray for one another.

Some counsel for those who lead group discussions:

1. Do not turn meetings into a lecture time. Guide and moderate the meeting, do not control or dominate the meeting.
2. Encourage open discussion, but avoid the scandalous. Some things are best confessed and forsaken and not confessed again.
3. Do not force anyone to give an answer to a question where they do not wish to do so. Let those answers intended for the student and her Lord only, remain so.
4. Should the Spirit of God breathe on your meeting, and prayer be wont, stop and seek the face of Jesus Christ. Better to help one soul, settle one matter, than to rush through a lesson for sake of a schedule.
5. Be certain all answers are supported by scripture and cite references where possible.

Many of these questions and studies are my own. Many others have been gathered from a variety of sources. We are most indebted to DSK for granting permission to reprint questions from her *Far Above Rubies* study guide. My greatest debt is to the Lord Jesus Christ for the blessings with which He has surrounded me all the days of my life. I cannot possibly proclaim, this side of heaven, how comfortable, happy and profitable my life has been because I have spent my days with a mother, a wife, and a mother-in-law who is each a woman of virtue. Few men have been blessed with such a trinity of helpers!

LESSON 01

FOUNDATIONS #1

In order to gain the most from this lesson, please read Titus 2:1-5 carefully before answering the questions.

1. After thought and reflection evaluate your concept of womanhood.
2. How have your ideas about womanhood changed since you became a Christian? If you have been a Christian since you were young, how has your concept changed over the years?
3. Think of a woman you admire as an outstanding Christian. Why do you esteem her?
4. Think of a powerful woman in the secular world. Name the negative results of her influence on women.
5. Who is your favorite female character in the Bible? What characteristics does she have that makes her so admired?
6. From Titus 2:1-5 list the qualities God admires. Next to them write the opposite of those qualities.
7. How do the qualities you esteem compare or conflict with the list above?
8. All women are not ready to teach, or be a proper example, to others. What are the prerequisites according to our passage?
9. How can a woman manifest behavior as becometh holiness to God? Why do you think this quality is named first?
10. Why is control of the tongue (not false accusers) so important? Can you think of an example when God's name has been dishonored or His work hindered by a slandering woman?
11. Define temperance. Why is it important for a godly woman to be free of addiction to wine, or any excess?

LESSON 02

FOUNDATIONS #2

Lesson 2 will be far more meaningful if you will carefully read Titus 2:1-5 before answering the questions.

1. Whom are women to teach?
2. In what ways is such teaching done?
3. Define sober and list some areas of life where sobriety is needed.
4. Why do you think we have limited sobriety to the area of intoxicating drink, taking from the word its broader meaning?
5. List some ways young women may be taught to love their husbands? Explain the difference between acts and attitudes.
6. What does it mean for a woman to love her children? How can this be taught?
7. Define discreet and list some areas of life where discretion is needed.
8. Why is the command to be keepers at home essential if one is to fulfill the prior commands in verses 4 & 5?
9. Define obedient. Is this command relevant in our day? Explain how ignoring God's command leads one into the philosophy of the world?
10. Define blasphemy. How is the word of God blasphemed by a disobedient woman? How does such an attitude affect one's teaching of the young women?
11. List some areas in your life that are not surrendered to God's will and how they could potentially harm others.

LESSON 03

THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN

One would do well to read Proverbs 31:10-31 at least three times before answering the questions.

1. Find Titus 2 qualities illustrated in Proverbs 31:10-31.

behavior as becometh holiness	control of tongue
self-control, not given to habits	love for husband
love for children	keeper at home
discreet	chaste
teacher of good	
2. What does the Bible say about virtuous women in Proverbs 31:10 and Ecclesiastes 7:28? To what is she compared? What does this tell us about the number of such women in our world?
3. How can a single girl model the qualities of Proverbs 31?
4. Discuss one of the qualities of Proverbs 31 that you learned from observing the life of an older woman.
5. The “bottom line” quality of the virtuous woman is fearing the Lord (vs. 30). How does this trait make all the others possible?
6. Make a list of the particulars in Proverbs 31:10-31. If there is not an exact match in today’s economy place one next to that on your list (e.g. spindle & distaff = sewing machine). Next to each grade yourself (A, B, C, D, F) as to how your life matches the Biblical ideal.
7. Now take the same list and write next to each particular a woman from the Bible and a woman you have known personally who exemplified such a trait.
8. What steps can (will) you take to “bring up your grades?”

LESSON 04

HANNAH, A TRIED WOMAN

Very close examination of 1 Samuel 1 is recommended before answering the questions.

1. From verses 1-8 describe Hannah's conflict.
2. Who was responsible for her condition?
3. How does God use hardships to bring blessing into our lives?
4. How did Hannah first respond to her condition (vv. 6-7)?
5. Can you think of a conflict in your own life that affected you in a similar way? Explain.
6. What did she finally do to overcome her bitterness (vv. 9-19)?
7. What principles can we learn from Hannah's prayer (v. 11)?
8. Describe the changes in Hannah's attitude toward the Lord, and toward her husband (1:19-2:1).
9. List some benefits that Hannah experienced as a result of her victory in dealing with her problem of barrenness (1:27-28; 2:20-21; 3:19-21).
10. In light of 1 Samuel 2:17, how do you think Hannah would have reacted at this point if she still did not conceive? Explain.
11. Apply each of the following verses to Hannah's life, and to your own life.
 - Proverbs 9:10
 - Proverbs 15:33
 - Proverbs 22:4
 - Revelation 14:7
12. Hannah voluntarily surrendered her most valuable possession to the Lord. Who benefited from this surrender and in what ways?
13. Is there something God has asked you to surrender that is not yet yielded to Him? Write out the reasons why.

LESSON 05

HANNAH

THE FEAR OF THE LORD

Every nation stumbles and falls when its people lose proper reverence for God. While He condescends to redeem fallen man, we should never fail to own Him as “the High and Lofty One.”

1. Read Psalms 31:19; Psalms 111:10; Psalms 112:1; Psalms 147:11; and Proverbs 8:13 and then write a paragraph defining the fear of the Lord.
2. Next to the following life situations write p if you have battled them in the past or c if you are battling them currently. For those in the past, how did God grant the victory?

age	health
physical appearance	children or lack of them
relatives or in-laws	lack of ability
spouse or lack of one	station in life
death of a loved one	finances
3. How did Job, the righteous man who suffered innocently, respond to his trials (Job 23:1-12)? What result came out of his suffering (Job 42:12)?
4. Sometimes God uses suffering to deal with His children who are not following Him or fearing Him. Why does he allow trial in the case of disobedient believers (Jeremiah 24:5-7; 29:11-14; 31:10-14)?
5. In each of the following situations, explain how trials can result in God’s glory, our benefit and the benefit of others:

grief	2 Corinthians 1:3-4
trials	James 1:2-4

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troubles 2 Corinthians 4:16-18
illness 2 Corinthians 12:7-10
persecutions 1 Peter 4:12-14

6. Write of an incident in your life where personal difficulty brought about special glory to the Lord.

LESSON 06

MARY AND MARTHA

CUMBERED VS. CONTENTED

Look over Luke 10:38-42 at least three times before answering the questions.

1. In the passage at hand two sisters desire to please Jesus. Why is Mary praised?
2. Why is Martha rebuked?
3. How might Martha have been different if she had taken time to listen to Jesus before she served?
4. What charge did Martha make against Jesus in verse 40?
5. Have you ever felt this way under the pressures of daily work? Explain.
6. What charge did Martha make against Mary in verse 40?
7. Discuss how our self-love leads us into bad attitudes toward others?
8. What does verse 40 teach about the prayers of one whose perspective is faulty?
9. Define cumbered (see Brother James' book *By Definition* for help).
10. Are you ever in this condition? Why?
11. How can you serve more like Mary?
12. How does Jesus describe true servitude in Mark 10:42-45?
13. Relate this description to the passages in Titus & Proverbs 31 from earlier lessons.
14. Can you think of a situation in your life where effective service came after spiritual worship?

LESSON 07

MIRIAM

AN UNRESTRAINED TONGUE

It is important that the student read Numbers 12:1-15 at least three times before answering the questions.

1. How did Miriam want others to see herself and Aaron?
2. What lay at the root of Miriam's sin?
3. What statement in verse 2 is so often forgotten by those who gossip?
4. How did God view Moses (v 3-9)?
5. How did God view the sin of Miriam (v 9-14; Proverbs 6:16-19; 1 Timothy 5:19-20)?
6. Why does God consider gossiping such a serious sin?
7. Comment upon
 - Proverbs 11:9 Proverbs 16:28
 - Proverbs 17:9 Proverbs 17:20
 - Proverbs 26:20-23
8. Can you think of a situation where you have been personally hurt by gossip?
9. Can you think of a situation where you have hurt another with gossip?
10. Did you learn anything from the two experiences? Explain.
11. What effect did Miriam's sin have on the others (v 15)?
12. How can you help stop gossip according to
 - Proverbs 14:15 Proverbs 15:28
 - Proverbs 17:27-28 Proverbs 18:13
 - James 3:2-18

13. How does giving ear to gossip make one a partaker of the evil deed?

LESSON 08

SPEAKING WITH KINDNESS

Little member is what God calls the tongue, but great blessings and great evils flow therefrom.

1. The virtuous woman speaks with kindness (Proverbs 31:26). Discuss positive ways you can use your tongue from:
Psalms 34:1-3 Proverbs 12:18
Proverbs 12:25 Proverbs 15:1
Proverbs 16:23-24
2. Give an example of someone who recently ministered to you with their speech. Explain why their words were so meaningful.
3. When it is impossible or impractical to overlook an offense, why is it best to talk directly to the party involved before discussing the matter with anyone else?
Proverbs 25:9-12 Matt 18:15
Luke 17:3-4
4. From the passages listed below, what is involved in being a wise reprover?
Proverbs 9:8-9 Proverbs 25:15
Galatians 6:1 Ephesians 4:15
Colossians 4:6 1 Samuel 25:23-25
5. Define flattery.
6. Why does someone flatter?
7. Why is it wrong according to
Proverbs 12:2 Proverbs 12:17-19
Proverbs 26:28 Proverbs 29:5
8. Why does someone nag?
9. Describe the effects of nagging based on

Proverbs 19:13
Proverbs 25:24

Proverbs 21:19

LESSON 09

ESTHER

A WOMAN OF TEMPERANCE

In order to profit fully from this lesson please carefully read chapters 1-7 of Esther before answering the questions.

1. Describe King Ahasuerus.
2. Describe Esther.
3. Do you believe there is a connection between her maturity in responding to wise counsel and her fruit of temperance? Explain (Esther 2:10,15,20).
4. How does knowing the will of God (4:14) help one control one's actions?
5. In what ways did Esther model victory over self-gratification (4:11-17)?
6. How did she exemplify control over her tongue (5:1-8; 7:1-6)?
7. What actions did Esther take to ensure self-control (5:1-8; 7:1-6)?
8. What benefits came out of her victory?
9. How did her temperance help others?
10. Titus 2 used the example of refusing wine when setting forth temperance. Can you name other areas, besides wine, that might entangle a woman's life?
11. Why is such self-control a requirement for teaching others?
12. Explain how some things which are good in themselves can be bad by misuse (Proverbs 24:13; 25:16,27).

LESSON 10

EVE, A BAD EXAMPLE

A careful reading of Genesis 2:15-3:24 is recommended before answering the questions.

1. Describe Eve's relationship to God, to Adam, to her home, before the fall.
2. Was there a difference in the God-given roles before the fall? Explain.
3. Who sinned first, Adam or Eve?
4. Who was held accountable for sin entering the world (Romans 5:12, 1 Corinthians 15:21-22)?
5. Why (1 Timothy 2:13-14)?
6. What does this reveal about the God-given nature of the woman?
7. What was the difference between the original command given to Adam, and Eve's understanding of the command (2:16-17 with 3:2-3)?
8. Name the ways Adam sinned.
9. What was the result of sin upon the woman?
10. How did the curse relate to the various role areas?
11. If the woman was designed by God to be under the protective leadership of the man, how did having a man rule over her become a curse?
12. Is sorrow in bringing forth children limited to labor pains at birth?
13. In what other ways would motherhood have been different without the sin nature?
14. How is your attitude and example affecting those in leadership over you?
15. How is it affecting those under you?
16. How is it affecting other women who are observing you?

LESSON 11

LEADERSHIP

Nowhere does Satan make a greater attempt to deceive the woman than in the matter of order and headship. Please study this lesson carefully, lest he get advantage in your life.

1. Why was the woman created (Genesis 2:20-22, 1 Corinthians 11:9)?
2. Was this a mistake or injustice on the part of God?
3. Can a woman be fulfilled who resents or rejects God's wisdom in her creation?
4. In the home the man is to rule (1 Timothy 3:5) and the woman is to guide (1 Timothy 5:14). Explain the difference?
5. Can God's full blessing be upon a home where such order is scorned?
6. In the church, is the leadership to be male or female (1 Timothy 3:1-12)? Why?
7. As regards the teaching ministry of an assembly, what role has God given to the woman (1 Timothy 2:11-12)? Why (1 Timothy 2:13-14)?
8. What does God say about a woman who feels her spirituality or knowledge entitles her to disobey the word of God by speaking in the assembly (1 Corinthians 14:33-38)?
9. As regards society, what is the result of women occupying places of political or social leadership (Isaiah 3:11-12)?
10. How has the desire for leadership affected the condition of women in America over the past 50 years?
11. Deborah is often cited as an example of female leadership. What does the Bible say about her times (Judges 17:6; 21:25)?

12. What is different about the other judges (Judges 3:9; 3:15; 6:11-14; 10:15; 11:10; 13:2-5)?
13. While the others judged in the temple, where did Deborah judge (Judges 4:4-5)?
14. What was Deborah's true role (Judges 3:7)?
15. Read and discuss how Deborah exemplified, not leadership, but God's will of help and support as seen in Judges 4:9, 1 Samuel 12:9-11, Hebrews 11:32.
16. Why did Eve want to eat the fruit? Why would a woman want a leadership role in home, church or society?

LESSON 12

MARY

ONE WHO LOVED HER HUSBAND

Please read Luke 1:26-56 carefully before answering the questions.

1. What was God's evaluation of Mary?
2. While some claim she was sinless, what does she say in this regard (vv. 47-48)?
3. Compare the prayer of Mary (vv. 46-55) with that of Hannah (1 Samuel 2:1-10). What do they both say about God?
 Luke 1:49 1 Samuel 2:2
 Luke 1:51 1 Samuel 2:3
 Luke 1:52 1 Samuel 2:4
 Luke 1:53 1 Samuel 2:5
 Luke 1:54-55 1 Samuel 2:10
4. Contrast Hannah's relationship to her husband before and after she reconciled with God (1 Samuel 1:7-8; 1:18-19).
5. What type of relationship do you feel Mary had with Joseph?
6. What do we know of Mary's moral character from our passage?
7. Why is fidelity an important part of love in marriage (Proverbs 6:32-35)?
8. In addition to faithfulness what other responsibility does a woman have to her mate (1 Corinthians 7:5)?
9. Joseph and Mary mutually abstained from marital relations before they were wed (Matthew 1:25). Why? How do we know this changed after their marriage (Matthew 13:55-56)?

10. What does this teach us regarding the sexual relationship of two persons?
11. List the harm brought about by pre-marital sex to the individual, the home, the church, the society.
12. List ways in which Mary & Joseph united for their common good:
 - Matthew 2:13-14
 - Luke 2:22
 - Luke 2:41
 - Luke 2:42-48
13. How did Mary give herself to God? How did this enable her to give herself to her husband?
14. Describe an area of your life that was yielded to God which resulted in your being able to yield to your husband or father.

LESSON 13

PROVOKING UNTO LOVE

1. Name two positive actions a loving wife needs to display as found in Ephesians 5:22-23.
2. Explain why these are important.
3. Define reverence.
4. Contrast reverence with nagging or belittling.
5. Give an example of a time when you (or if single your mother) revered your husband and the positive result.
6. List specific ways we may love others as found in Romans 12:9-12.
7. List the characteristics of charity set forth in 1 Corinthians 13. Mark those you find most lacking in your life and purpose to make them matters of prayer.
8. Choose two of those in which you are lacking. Discuss what hinders you in these areas.
9. How do you define love?
10. If other members of your family treated you as you treated them today, would you believe they loved you?
11. Why does God consider love to be vital in the life of a believer (Colossians 3:12-14, 1 Corinthians 13:8)?
12. Explain how the knowledge that Jesus knows all our faults, failures and sins and yet loves us completely, relates to your loving your husband and children.

LESSON 14

JOCHEBED, LOVER OF CHILDREN

1. Amram and Jochebed were the only parents in the Bible to have three children in leadership (Micah 6:4). In what ways did Moses pattern his life after his mother's early training (Hebrews 11:23-27)?
2. How was his thinking different from that of the world (Hebrews 11:24-28)?
3. Describe the spiritual conditions in the nation of Israel at the time of Moses (Joshua 24:14, Ezekiel 20:6-8).
4. Explain how effective training involves teaching one's children to be "in the world but not of the world."
5. What is God saying to you in Psalms 144:11-12?
6. What teaching sources for children would draw them away from the Lord and toward the world?
7. What teaching sources would draw them to the Lord and should thus be encouraged?
8. Discuss the training method set forth by God in Deuteronomy 6:4-9. In which areas are you failing? In which areas are you faithful? What steps will you take to correct what is lacking?
9. How much time did you spend TODAY praying for your children? How much time did you spend TODAY training your children?
10. Are you satisfied this level of commitment will make them strong Christians? Can you expect your children to have a greater commitment to Christ than you have?

11. What things are your children observing in your life that you would not want them to repeat in theirs? What things would you want them to emulate?
12. When we tell our children some behavior or attitude is wrong, but then practice the same, what lesson are we teaching them?
13. How does your relationship to your husband, father, pastor, affect your children's relationship to God?

LESSON 15

SARAH, MODEL OF PURITY

The fact that so many women are upset by this lesson gave cause to stop and ponder. Were the objects "this is not Biblical?" No. Were the objections, "well, I just think...?" Yes. So the lesson stands.

1. What do we know of Sarah's appearance (Genesis 12:10-15)?
2. What affect can a modest, pure life have on a husband who doesn't obey the Bible (1 Peter 3:1-6)?
3. How are Christian women to imitate Sarah?
4. The focus of the passage is internal with its effect upon the external. Explain how one's attire reveals one's heart condition.
5. Define modesty.
6. What are the benefits of modesty for the woman herself, for the church, for the unbelievers?
7. How does God's definition of beauty differ from the world's?
8. What do Lamentations 3:51 and Matthew 5:28 teach the spiritually minded woman?
9. When God, in judgment, took away the tenderness and delicacy of virgins their legs were made bare and their thighs uncovered (Isaiah 47:1-2). What does this teach the spiritually minded woman about shorts and short skirts?

10. If a woman's breasts are for the satisfaction of her husband (Proverbs 5:18-19) what does this teach the spiritually minded woman about form-fitting, see-through, or low cut clothing?
11. Adam and Eve thought they were covered with fig leaves over their private parts. God made coats of skins to cover them. What does this teach the spiritually minded woman about bathing suits and other forms of skimpy clothing?
12. If the eyes of only one man are instinctively drawn to a woman's pelvic region, can a woman wear trousers (formed to fit) without violating Matthew 5:28 and Romans 14?
13. What would you think of a man you saw wearing a dress? Why? Then you agree this is apparel, in our society, that pertains to a woman? Why would a woman desire to wear men's apparel?
14. How does Romans 9:20 apply to a woman's dissatisfaction with feminine attire?
15. Following are two checklists regarding apparel. In list A mark each statement honestly in two ways. First, mark the ones you think are true. Second, mark the ones that honestly represent your heart's attitude. In list B mark the one from each which best describes your lifestyle.

LIST A

1. Everyone is doing it.
2. I care more about my testimony than my taste.
3. Everyone will think I'm a square.
4. I can't do that work in a dress.
5. I'll get a longer dress or stop doing that work.
6. That's just one man's opinion or interpretation.
7. I want men in the church thinking on the Lord, not my body.
8. God forbid I should lead a weak brother into temptation.
9. I'm free to do as I please.
10. It doesn't hurt anybody.

11. A modest woman will be respected by men and treated more politely.
12. I want my husband to know I'm reserved for him.
13. If men lust that's their problem not mine.
14. I'll miss out on all the fun.
15. Some things about modest dress I don't agree with, but I'll do them to be on the safe side.
16. My friend wears men's clothing and she's a fine Christian.
17. God looks on the heart. He doesn't care what I wear.
18. Man looks on the outward appearance, so I must be careful what he sees.

LIST B

PROVERBS 7, A SENSUOUS WOMAN

PROVERBS 31, A VIRTUOUS WOMAN

immoral, common, cheap	v 5	
	<i>virtuous, rare, valuable</i>	v 10
dresses like a harlot	v 10	
	<i>clothed with dignity</i>	v 25
crafty, uses others	v 10	
	<i>helps others</i>	v 20
loud and defiant	v 11	
	<i>content</i>	v 27
frequently away from home	v 11	
	<i>responsible homemaker</i>	v 27
uses religion to cover deceit	v 14	
	<i>fears the Lord</i>	v 30
depends on sensual allurements	17	
	<i>depends on inner character</i>	v 30
lives for the moment	v 18	
	<i>looks to the future</i>	v 25
deceitful	v 19	
	<i>trustworthy</i>	v 11

seduces with smooth talk	v 21	
	<i>speaks with wisdom</i>	v 26
victimizes/destroys men	v 26	
	<i>strengthens her man</i>	v 23
provides temporary pleasure	v 18	
	<i>blesses lives</i>	v 28
but ultimately destroys	v 27	
	<i>brings good not harm</i>	v 12

LESSON 16

PRISCILLA, ONE WHO WORKED AT HOME

1. Describe the relationship between Priscilla, Aquila and Paul (Acts 18:18-28).
2. Aquila and Priscilla moved to spread the gospel to Ephesus. Describe how they used their home for God. What resulted from their ministry?
3. Identify another way this couple used their home (1 Corinthians 6:19). How might this be done today?
4. In 56 AD Priscilla and Aquila moved back to Rome. What risk might have been involved in the move (Acts 18:2)?
5. How did they use their home in that country (Romans 16:3-5)?
6. Review the information we have about this couple. Imagine yourself in their shoes, moving four times, constantly opening their lives to others. What types of sacrifices did Priscilla make in her commitment to use her home for the Lord?
7. What will be some of her eternal rewards?

8. Priscilla helped her husband in his home industry. Name some creative alternatives for women today to supplement the family income without seeking outside employment.
9. Define hospitality.
10. Contrast hospitality with entertaining.
11. What excuses do you make for not showing hospitality? Which of these is linked with pride? Indifference? Laziness?
12. How could you use your home in ministry to others?

LESSON 17

PROMOTING HOMEWORKING

1. Review Proverbs 31:10-31. Evaluate the responsibilities she supervises in the home. What domestic skills has she developed?
2. Find and list expressions that reveal the satisfaction she feels in managing her home.
3. How do you see home commitments taking priority over community outreach in this passage?
4. A woman must learn to budget. What are the dangers of buying items on credit (Proverbs 22:7; Romans 13:8)?
5. What are some hard lessons you have learned through budget carelessness?
6. What are some budget secrets you would pass on to others?
7. What role does attitude play in keeping the home; based on
Proverbs 15:17 Proverbs 17:1
Proverbs 21:19 Proverbs 25:24
Proverbs 27:15 Proverbs 24:3-4
8. Write a paragraph on what Proverbs 14:1 means to you.

9. What are some ways a woman can wisely build a house? List ways in which she can tear her house down.
10. Many women are bored and frustrated as homemakers. Others are stimulated and challenged by the role. Explain the difference.
11. How can you practically encourage others to be keepers at home?
12. How can women in a church fellowship bear one another's burdens with regard to house keeping?
13. List some of the dangers to virtue, chastity and the home a woman encounters in the workplace.

LESSON 18

TABITHA

DOING GOOD TO OTHERS

1. Read Acts 9:36-42. What group of people wept after Tabitha died?
2. Define almsdeeds.
3. Do you think Tabitha did good deeds but for her own selfish reasons? Why or why not?
4. Describe the Lord's attitude toward afflicted people as set forth in

Deuteronomy 10:17-19	Psalms 10:14
Psalms 68:5	Psalms 146:9
Deuteronomy 10:17-19	Psalms 10:14
Psalms 68:5	Psalms 146:9
5. When we minister to the needy, who do we help according to Matthew 25:34-45?

6. What promise does God give to the people who care for those who cannot repay the kindness (Deuteronomy 14:29, Isaiah 58:10-11)?
7. Can you think of things to avoid when reaching out to those in affliction?
8. What are some ways you can help fulfill 1 John 3:17-18?
9. How does such giving evidence the love of God?
10. Give some guidelines for writing a good letter of comfort?
11. From Acts 9:39 describe the life of Tabitha.
12. How would people feel, and what would they have to show, if they were standing around your corpse today?
13. Relate James 2:15-17 to Tabitha. To yourself.

LESSON 19

ENCOURAGING GOOD DEEDS

1. List the forms of doing good in 1 Timothy 5:10?
2. What are practical ways to perform these tasks today?
3. Name at least two reasons for showing hospitality to strangers (Hebrews 13:2; Deuteronomy 31:12).
4. To what other kinds of people should we open our homes?
5. What should be our motive (Luke 6:35; 14:12-14)?
6. Why do verses like Galatians 6:10 emphasize serving fellow Christians?
7. Can you think of an example when an unbeliever was touched by observing the love Christians showed each other?
8. Phoebe served many, including the apostle Paul (Romans 16:1-2). What are some ways she might have served?
9. List the ministries of your church which are designed to help others either temporally or spiritually. Check those in which you are actively involved. What does this list reveal about

the time you spend on self as compared to the time you give to others?

10. State briefly what influence each of the following women had on others.

Eve	Genesis 3:6
Lydia	Acts 16:14-15
Delilah	Judges 16:16-21
Rahab	Joshua 6:25
Solomon's wives	1 Kings 11:3-4
The Shunammite	2 Kings 4:8-10
Yourself	

LESSON 20

REBEKAH, ONE WHO BETRAYED HER HUSBAND

Read Genesis 27:1-46 carefully before answering the questions.

1. What do you see lacking in Isaac & Rebekah's relationship (Genesis 25:23, 27; 27:5-17)?
2. What effect did her lack of submission have on others?
Her husband (27:33) Jacob (27:19-20,43)
Esau (27:41; 28:8-9)
3. How was Rebekah effected by her actions?
4. Did Rebekah meet her husband's needs as described in Ephesians 5:22, 33?
5. Do you think she was an easy wife for Isaac to love? Explain.

6. If you were in a position of leadership, instead of your husband, father or pastor, what type of support would you like to receive?
7. What are things you would like others to do to make your task easier and more enjoyable?
8. How can applying Matthew 7:1-5 help you overcome a critical or bitter spirit when your leader fails in some area?
9. Rebekah's scheme got her what she thought she wanted, but only for the moment. What do you suppose were the long term effects upon her marriage?
10. Read Philippians 2:1-11, John 10:30 and John 14:28. Explain how equality and submission work hand in hand in the Godhead.
11. Read Galatians 3:28, Ephesians 5:22-24 and 1 Corinthians 11:3. Explain how equality and submission are to work hand in hand in the family.
12. Describe the heart motives of Satan in his rebellion (Isaiah 14:13-14) and how the same weakness was found in Eve (Genesis 3:5). What lesson is here for you?
13. Relate the principles of 1 Corinthians 12:14-26 to the roles assigned by God to each member of the family.

LESSON 21
RUTH
A SINGLE WOMAN OF VIRTUE

Please read the book of Ruth carefully before answering the questions.

1. What did Ruth stand to lose when she joined Naomi (Ruth 1:8-18; 2:11)?
2. What did she stand to gain?
3. Describe the main priority in Ruth's life (Ruth 1:16; 2:11-12).
4. Explain how Matthew 6:33 is exemplified in the life of Ruth.
5. How did Boaz learn about Ruth's character (Ruth 2:11-12; 3:11)?
6. Why is an objective evaluation by others an important element in selecting a mate?
7. Ruth is the only woman in the Bible called virtuous. Define virtuous.

8. List all the character qualities you see in Ruth. Which do you most admire? Which are evident in your life? Which come hardest for you?
9. How did the Lord bless Ruth as a result of her faith?
10. How did He use her to bless others?
11. What was Ruth's attitude toward her past sorrow and heartache?
12. Do you think that Ruth was "lucky" or do you think God rewarded her for her deeds? Explain.
13. Tell of a time when you put a bad experience behind you, gave yourself to serving the Lord and others, and were blessed of God as a result.

LESSON 22

ABIGAIL, WITH AN UNRIGHTEOUS HUSBAND

Please read 1 Samuel 25 carefully before answering the questions.

1. Contrast Nabal and Abigail (vs. 3).
2. Contrast their attitude toward the needy (vv. 10-11,18).
3. What did David intend to do to wicked Nabal (v. 12-13)?
4. What did Abigail do for an unrighteous husband (vv. 23-31)?
5. What is the spiritual condition of the husband discussed in 1 Peter 3:1-6?
6. How is he to be dealt with by his wife?
7. How does fearing God prompt submission to a bad husband?
8. Relate this submission to its immediate context (1 Peter 2:19-25).

9. What is the second mile the Lord expects the believer to walk in an unequal marriage (1 Corinthians 7:13-16)?
10. What reward is hoped for?
11. A common complaint among wives today is they are victims of “verbal abuse”. What does Jesus counsel for such women (Matthew 5:11-12, 44-46)?
12. Discuss Ephesians 4:31-32 in relation to one married to an unbeliever.
13. Does Romans 8:28 apply in such a case, or is an unequal marriage an exception?
14. Suppose you are going to counsel a friend who is unhappily married to an unbeliever. How can you use the truth of Galatians 6:7-10 to uplift her?

LESSON 23

BEFORE YOU DIVORCE

These are indeed perilous times. Our society no longer views marriage as sacred, and divorce is accepted and promoted. Ministers encourage the practice by failing to declare God’s word on the subject. Many people, saved and lost, have been through one or more divorces before they ever learn what the Bible has to say about the matter. This lesson is not designed to heap condemnation upon those whose past ignorance led them into error. But we cannot allow and promote future error by failing to set forth scriptural truth on the subject.

1. To the best of your recollection, write out the vows you spoke at your wedding.
2. What does Ecclesiastes 5:4-6 say about those who break vows made before God?

3. Explain God's warning "destroy the work of thine hands" (Ecclesiastes 5:6, 1 Corinthians 3:13-15).
4. How does Proverbs 31:12 apply in this regard?
5. What does God declare to be His attitude toward "putting away" (Malachi 2:14-16)?
6. What are the three commands given in 1 Corinthians 7:10-11?
7. Though Paul had no such commands to cite in the Old Testament, what is the proof he was speaking under the inspiration of God in these verses?
8. What do we learn about the spiritual condition of the husband in this context (1 Corinthians 7:13)?
9. Discuss Matthew 5:31-32 in light of the second of these three commands.
10. "I did it for the children" is a common claim. What does 1 Corinthians 7:14 say about the influence of one righteous partner on the young?
11. What reason does God give for staying in a bad relationship (1 Corinthians 7:16)?
12. Discuss how Christ's sufferings for you, and your eventual salvation, are the example for all those in a troubled home.
13. Another common claim is "I don't love him anymore." What light does Galatians 5:22 and Song of Solomon 8:7 shed upon such a statement?
14. List some of the "built in" dangers involved in a second marriage.
15. List some of the difficulties faced by "step" parents as regards raising the children.

LESSON 24

THE SINGLE MOTHER

The burdens on the widow, the one who has been put away, or the one who has divorced, are not doubled but multiplied. Yet, praise be to the Lamb, the situation is far from hopeless.

1. Is it possible for one saved parent to raise holy children (1 Corinthians 7:14)?
2. What do we know of Timothy's father (Acts 16:1-3)?
3. What do we know of Timothy's mother and grandmother (2 Timothy 1:5)?
4. How did they train him (2 Timothy 3:14-17)? What were the results?
5. What was the Shunammite woman's attitude toward the ministry (2 Kings 4:8-10)? What was her husband's attitude (2 Kings 4:22-23)?

6. What was her reward (2 Kings 4:20, 36-37, Hebrews 11:35)?
7. What do the stories of Moses and Samuel teach us about raising children for God in a corrupt environment?
8. What do they teach about the power and influence of the mother's instruction and example?
9. Why do children of a single parent especially need constant fellowship in the local church?
10. What commands does God give the church regarding the fatherless?
11. List the special needs of single mothers.
12. List some ways you can be of help to the single mothers in your church.
13. Write out each phrase of the 23rd Psalm. Under each phrase discuss how that promise relates to you as a mother.
14. If you are a single mother, list your frustrations regarding your circumstance. Honestly mark those being used as excuses for some area of failure. Place beside each item on the list a Bible promise upon which to stand that you might have victory.
15. What steps can you take to ensure your children will not grow bitter against God because of their situation?
16. How will using their situation as an excuse for their failures harm them?

LESSON 25

THE MARRIAGE BED

One of the most difficult tasks facing many women is “shifting gears.” While a man can instantly shut out the cares of the world and become intimate, a woman’s make-up is quite different. It is hard for her to change from mom and housewife into lover by simply walking through the bedroom door. It is also a challenge for many virtuous women to transform themselves from modest to “immodest”. This lesson is designed to provide Biblical counsel to help overcome these hindrances.

1. What does Hebrews 13:4 teach about sexual relations? Is the sexual relationship within the marriage wrong or dirty?
2. What is one of the primary purposes for marriage (1 Corinthians 7:2)?
3. What does 1 Corinthians 7:4 teach about the frequency and manner of intimate relations within the marriage?

4. Define defraud.
5. List the ways in which women can harm their marriages by refusal or reluctance to enjoy the marriage bed?
6. Review the lesson on modesty of apparel and conduct. What does 1 Corinthians 7:34 give you to understand when relating these principles to private hours with your husband?
7. Proverbs 7 discusses the woman of the world who will seek to steal your husband from you. What are the tools of her trade (v 10, 13-15, 16-17, 18, 21)? How can you use these tools (1 Corinthians 7:34) to your advantage?
8. While we would certainly use different terms, read carefully Song of Solomon 4:1-7 and 7:1-9. What does the man find attractive about the woman? Is your hygiene, dress, and conditioning such that he will find you desirable?
9. What do we learn from Song of Solomon 5:2-6 about a man who is “turned away at the door”?
10. What does the virtuous woman passage teach with regard to gaining weight (Proverbs 31:17, 27)?
11. Would you agree that neglecting one’s appearance may be just as much a spiritual problem as glorying in one’s appearance (1 Corinthians 9:27)?
12. List some ways Satan may gain advantage over a woman who does not keep herself “in shape”?
13. Remember, your husband chose you, not someone else. How can Satan gain advantage over a woman who is envious of other women as regards appearance (2 Corinthians 10:12)?
14. Define ravish (Proverbs 5:19). What steps can you take to strengthen your marriage in the area of intimate relations?

LESSON 26

ANNA, A WIDOW INDEED

Please read 1 Timothy 5:3-16 carefully before answering the questions.

1. What is a widow?
2. Who is to provide for the widow (1 Timothy 5:4,8,16)?
3. Who are the “widows indeed” (1 Timothy 5:5,16)?
4. What are the qualifications a widow must meet before she is provided for by the local church (1 Timothy 5:9-10)?
5. What danger do the younger widows face (1 Timothy 5:11-12)?
6. In what ways do women cast off faith in Christ in order to marry?
7. What do these actions say about their priorities? Their trust in God’s word?
8. How does the idle widow of verse 13 contrast with the virtuous woman?

9. Is it wrong for a widow to remarry (1 Timothy 5:14)?
10. What must a widow avoid (1 Timothy 5:6,13,15)?
11. Define wanton.
12. Define tattler.
13. One may serve God and wait for a husband, or one may seek a husband. Which way will result in finding a God-fearing mate?
14. Compare Anna (Luke 2:36-37) with the woman of 1 Timothy 5:11-13. Which one pleased the Lord? Which gained the most by her course of action?
15. What does the 1 Timothy passage teach regarding the importance of a married woman having her own strong walk with the Lord?

LESSON 27

RIZPAH, THE LOSS OF A CHILD

There is probably no pain so great in all the earth as that known by a woman whose child has traveled through the valley of the shadow of death. In this lesson will seek to find Biblical counsel to help one bear such a burden.

1. Read carefully Job 1. Had Job sinned against the Lord? Was the death of his children a form of punishment for some iniquity?
2. Read carefully Job 3. Now consider Job 1:22 and 2:10. Does God fault a parent for grieving the loss of child? Is God merciful, even when words are spoken in bitterness?
3. Read and contrast Matthew 2:16-18 and John 14:17-18. What do born again believers have that the unsaved do not have? Describe how this would affect the manner of sorrow experienced by each in times of loss.

4. When Jesus gives the promise of the Comforter in John 14, what is the reason for giving His disciples this promise? How does this setting add weight to the Lord's words?
5. According to 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 what is the ground of comfort for the Christian?
6. In light of Isaiah 57:1-2 answer the following:
 - Do the good die young?
 - Does the world really care about our sorrow?
 - What comforting truth would God have us consider about the death of our child?
 - What have the righteous departed experienced?

Please read 2 Samuel 21:8-12. From this unpleasant passage there is much worthy of consideration. While this woman could not restore her sons to life, she could protect and preserve their memory.

7. What does this passage reveal about the heart of a mother?
8. What type of testimony did she have as a result of her actions?
9. Who was stirred to action because of her deeds?
10. How may a mother's preservation of a deceased child's memory motivate the King of Kings?

11. David lost a child in infancy. How did he respond to the trial (2 Samuel 12:19-23)?
12. In light of the fact that David's sins were forgiven, what do you make of his words in verse 23?
13. How does his hope relate to Romans 5:13, 20.
14. What do David's words indicate regarding the term "lost a child?"

15. Read carefully 2 Corinthians 1:3-5. Do these verses teach that God will remove our tribulation? Why does He allow the trouble? How are we to use our heartaches? Is there any suffering so great that God's comfort cannot meet our need?

LESSON 28

POUTING ISN'T CUTE

That which is born of the flesh is flesh. It only stands to reason that some people are going to be offended or get their feelings hurt by some teaching from the Bible. Something in these lessons may have rubbed you the wrong way. There is a proper response to such outbursts of the old nature.

1. In light of Psalms 119:165 why do people get offended?
2. When we break away from a relationship, church fellowship or Bible study group because everything does not go our way, what is the cause according to Proverbs 13:10?

Read carefully Philippians 2:1-11.

3. What is the only lasting ground of fellowship (v. 1)?
4. What brings joy to the heart of God (v. 2)?

5. What heart attitude would destroy the fellowship and grieve the Lord (v. 3)?
6. What is the true outworking of the new birth (v. 4)?
7. Look over verses 5-8 again. Do you think Jesus “felt” like going through these things? Did everything “go His way?” How is self-denial and sacrifice mandatory if one would follow Jesus?

Read carefully Hebrews 12:9-16.

8. What is the purpose of spiritual and Biblical correction (vv. 9-11)?
9. When something in these lessons has crossed your will or opinion has your response been “peaceable”?
10. The pouting gestures described in verse 12 are a reflection of what heart attitudes?
11. How would you speak to your child if you saw them respond this way to your correction?
12. How does my falling out with someone who disagrees with me affect my fellowship with the Lord (vv. 14-15)?

Read carefully Matthew 26:36-44.

13. Describe how Jesus felt about the cup of wrath He was to drink.
14. Describe how He overcame the desires of the flesh.
15. What was the key to Jesus’ victory in the garden?
16. What was its blessed result in the lives of others?
17. Can you think of and relate an experience where you surrendered your will to God’s will and others were blessed thereby?

LESSON 29

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN

1. How did the women of Luke 8:1-3 minister to the Lord Jesus? How can you serve Him in this way?
2. In what ways did Phebe assist the apostle Paul and the church (Romans 16:1-2)? How can you serve in this way?
3. While Rahab may not come to mind as one who served the Lord, she did make the roll call of faith. How did she help God's servants? In what practical ways can you follow her example?
4. Who were the first persons to preach the gospel (the crucified Christ was risen) to others?
5. How did the woman of John 4 make Jesus known to her community? In ways can you preach the gospel and bring others to Christ?

6. Read Acts 16:9-15, 40. What is most interesting about the “man of Macedonia?” What does the passage teach about the women of this region?
7. What was Lydia’s response to the gospel? What were the fruits of her response? How can you minister as she did?
8. What do we learn of Philip’s daughters from Acts 21:9? What do we learn of their ministry from 1 Timothy 2:11-12 and 1 Corinthians 14:34-35? What do we learn of their ministry from Titus 2:4-5?
9. How can you serve in this way today?
10. List ways a woman may minister to
 - the elderly
 - the lost
 - the aged
 - the poor
 - the shut in
 - the church
 - the young mother
 - the new convert
11. What definite steps will you take to become a better minister of Jesus Christ?

LESSON 30

VIRTUOUS WOMAN REVISITED

Please read Proverbs 31:10-31 before answering the following questions.

1. What new insights do you have into this passage since you began these lessons?
2. Do you have a better understanding of what God wants a woman to be? of how to train a daughter or granddaughter?
3. What particular areas of this study have been most helpful?
4. What changes have you made in your conduct and attitudes as a result of this study?
5. What do the following statements, from Proverbs 31, mean to you?
 - He shall have no need of spoil
 - All the days of her life
 - She girdeth her loins with strength

she reacheth forth her hands to the needy
she shall rejoice in time to come
eateth not the bread of idleness

6. Can the man in your life safely trust in you? Which women from these lessons would you trust? Not trust? What actions of yours could destroy such trust?
7. List the character qualities found in Proverbs 31. Now rank them in the order in which you think they are found in your life. Will you make those near the bottom matters of prayer and correction?
8. What traits or habits did you learn from your mother which trouble you today?
9. What does this teach you about your influence upon your children (Ezekiel 16:44)?
10. Choose the woman from the Bible you most admire and discuss why you esteem her so highly.

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