

true wōman 101

divine design

an eight-week study in biblical womanhood

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Winter/Spring Study

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WEEK 3

What it Means to Be a Woman



▶ *Every woman, whether rich or poor, married, or single, has a circle of influence within which according to her character, she is exerting a certain amount of power for good or harm. Every woman, by her virtue or her vice, by folly or her wisdom, by her levity or her dignity, is adding something to our national elevation or degradation.*

▶ *Female Piety*

Core of what it means to be a woman

- ▶ Softness
- ▶ Forming deep relational bonds
- ▶ Receptive, responsive spirit
- ▶ Creating a place to beget & nurture life

Softness

- ▶ Bringing gentleness & quietness to man's strength
- ▶ *Her influence, however, is a kind of passive power; it is the power that draws rather than drives, and commands by obeying. Her gentleness makes her strong...Woman loses her power when parts from her gentleness.*

Relational Bonds

- ▶ Find identity in our connections & relationship with others
- ▶ *Woman is the grace, ornament, & charm of the social circle; and when she carries into it habits that frown upon vice, that check folly & discountenance levity, she is a benefactress to the country.*

Receptive & Responsive

- ▶ Magnolia Flower
 - ▶ *The image melds beauty with perseverance, softness with backbone, delicacy with durability, sweetness with stamina, & gentleness with gumption.....When her life is under the control of the Sprit of God, this responsiveness is accompanied by a steadfast determination to be receptive to the right influences*
- ▶ Able to work together to reach the same goal
- ▶ Picture of the Church responsive to Christ
- ▶ What are we responding to? That which is of Christ or the world
 - ▶ Colossians 2:18
 - ▶ #SeeHer


Creating a place

- ▶ ATMOSPHERE not HOUSEHOLD CHORES
- ▶ *A woman in our fallen world, guiding in piety, intelligence, & all matronly & motherly excellences the circle of a home made happy chiefly by her influence, presents a scene little inferior in beauty, & far superior as a display of virtue & intelligence, to that of which our first mother was the center even in her original perfection.*
- ▶ *It is that silent, unobserved, unobtrusive influence by which she accomplishes more for her race than many whose names occupy a broad space on the page of history.*

“EZER”

Genesis 2:18, 2:20

- ▶ Description of God
 - ▶ Exodus 18:4; Deut. 33:7,26,29; Psalm 20:2; 33:20; 70:5; 89:19; 115:9-11; 121:1-2; 124:8; 146:5
- ▶ Help man glorify God (serve Him not himself)
- ▶ Help fulfill command to “be fruitful & multiply”
- ▶ Picture of the Church helping Christ
 - ▶ Glorify God
 - ▶ Bear fruit
 - ▶ Great Commission to multiply disciples

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- ▶ *Woman is the mother of the human race; she is either our companion, counselor, & comforter in the pilgrimage of life or she is our tempter, scourge, & destroyer. Our sweetest cup of earthly happiness or our bitterest draught of sorrow is mixed & administered by her hand. She not only renders smooth or rough our path to the grave, but helps or hinders our progress to immortality. In heaven we shall bless God for her aid in assisting us to reach that blissful state; or, amidst the torments of unutterable woe in another region, we shall deplore the fatality of her influence.*

