

Study Guide

Biblical Womanhood

1. Read Genesis 2:18. Why do you think it is not good for culture to only have men? Discuss the word “helper” (*Heb. ezer*), as meaning “life saver” or military reinforcement for aid and support? How can that look in practical ways?
2. Read the following verses and discuss the characteristics of an excellent woman.
 - a. Loyalty (v.11-12)
 - b. Productivity (v. 13-25- home, business, charity, savings, luxury, honor, dignity)
 - c. Mentoring (v.26-27)
3. Read Proverbs 31:28-31. Notice how a woman is not deceived by culture, but is praised in her old age.
 - a. Discuss how charm and beauty can be very deceiving.
 - b. Read Prov. 12:4 and Prov. 21:19. Discuss how a man can feel caged by living with a woman who is disgraceful, quarrelsome and ill-tempered.
 - c. Discuss the dynamics around a woman who is being praised in her old age. What does that look like?

Prayer

Ask God to break down strongholds of shame, anxiety, laziness, quarrelsome spirits and seductive spirits.

Message Slides

Mark 16:1-8

Theme- An excellent woman provides loyalty, productivity and mentoring. She is not deceived by culture, but is greatly praised in her old age.

Proverbs 31:10-31

A. An excellent woman (v.10-27)

"A wife of **noble character** who can find? She is worth far more than rubies."

1. Loyalty (11-12)

"Her husband has **full confidence** in her and lacks nothing of value. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life."

2. Productivity (13-25)

a. Home (13-15)

"She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands. She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar. She gets up while it is still dark; she **provides food for her family** and portions for her servant girls."

b. Business (16-19)

"She considers a field and buys it; out of **her earnings** she plants a vineyard. She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks. She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night. In her hand she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers."

c. Charity (20)

"She opens her arms to the **poor** and extends her hands to the **needy**."

d. Savings (21)

"When it snows, she has **no fear** for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet."

e. Luxury (22)

"She makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in **fine linen** and purple."

f. Honor (23)

"Her husband is **respected** at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land."

g. Dignity (24-25)

"She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies the merchants with sashes. She is clothed with strength and **dignity**; she can laugh at the days to come."

3. Mentoring (26-27)

"She speaks with wisdom, and **faithful instruction** is on her tongue. She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness."

Theme- An excellent woman provides loyalty, productivity and mentoring. She is not deceived by culture, but is greatly praised in her old age.

B. An Excellent Woman is not deceived by Culture (v. 30)

"Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: 'Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.' **Charm is deceptive**, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. Give her the reward she has earned, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate."

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Prov. 12:4

"A wife of noble character is her husband's crown, but a disgraceful wife is like decay in his bones."

Prov. 21:19

"Better to live in the desert, than with a quarrelsome and ill tempered wife."

Theme- An excellent woman provides loyalty, productivity and mentoring. She is not deceived by culture, but is greatly praised in her old age.

C. An Excellent Woman will be greatly praised. (v.28-31)

“Her children arise and call her **blessed**; her husband also, and he **praises** her: ‘Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.’ Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be **praised**. Give her the reward she has earned, and let her works bring her **praise** at the city gate.”