

The Virtuous Woman Part 1

Virtuous means having or showing high moral standards, being chaste, righteous, honest, good, and valuable.

A few women are willing to put forth the time and effort required to be virtuous. Becoming virtuous is a lifelong journey. It won't be a quick fix. You must have a growing relationship with Jesus through his word. You must be receptive to God's truth. You must maintain an active prayer life and stay in God's word daily. You will then see the growth that God intended. Sometimes our hearts can be too hard to receive God's truth. When our hearts are soft, we can be receptive to his teaching. A virtuous woman is a godly woman. Proverbs 31 reminds us that virtuous women are a rare find. It is not a label that many will earn.

The Virtuous woman is valuable, she's a vigorous worker, and she's virtuous. Every wife wants her husband to be respected, but women don't always realize how much they contribute to the respect he receives.

A man's reputation in the workplace begins at home. He may be a great leader; he may be a very capable man, but if he doesn't have a wife and children who respect him and respect and honor the Lord (even more importantly), that is going to pull down his reputation rather than contribute to it. All of us women should be setting a positive example for our family. We should be a positive role model for our children. If the man of the house is disciplining our children for something they did wrong and we go behind his back to change what he has said, we are showing disrespect to him. Then the children will start showing disrespect toward him because children only copy what a parent says and do. A child is a mirror; what you see is a reflection of what you have done. A child is an echo; what you hear back is what you have said. God expects us to be a valuable wife.

Valuable is something with great worth; costly; rich; dear; useful

The virtuous woman earned her husband's respect by working with him and not against him. This is such an example to follow. Do we think people ever admire our husband because of our actions? Have we ever thought about it? We have a lot of influence on his reputation and his ability to get things done. She is proud to be the wife of her husband. Husbands and wives are on the same team and have the same goal: to build, provide for, and maintain a godly family. We can be a valuable wife if we work with our husband to reach that goal. The virtuous woman recognizes that it is really a compliment to be known as the wife of a man who has risen to a position of spiritual leadership. He's a godly man, and that's how he has this position. Her husband is honored. He's esteemed, and it tells us in verse 23 that he sits with the elders at the gates.

In the Jewish culture in those days, the city gate was a place where the legal and the judicial matters were handled. People would come to the gate and get counsel, advice, wisdom, and they would get matters settled.

This woman's husband is apparently one of the elders of the town. He's influential; he's a leader; he has a position of influence; he's a judge. This woman's noble character adds to the respect and the esteem that other people have for her husband. Because he has a successful home life; because he has a wife who is worthy of praise, and because he has children who follow in her influence and are following God as she does, this man is esteemed. The virtuous woman isn't lazy. She works hard at home. Her husband is respected, and she has helped contribute to that.

A man's reputation in the workplace begins at home. Our character adds to or takes away from our husband's reputation and what other people think of him. This woman is a support to her husband. She enhances his reputation and his standing. Either we're enhancing our husband's reputation at church and in the workplace and in the society, or we're pulling it down. She's competent, as we have already seen in this passage, in her own right. She's a very capable woman. She's a hard-working woman. She helps provide for her family. She even works hard when she shops. She knows the value of a dollar and will not squander the family's money. A woman supporting her husband as the one who's out there in the marketplace and the one who has the positions of leadership and influence in the society is a very foreign concept in our culture today. Here's the woman who models what it's like to be a support to her husband. He's working to provide the resources, and she is managing those resources for the care of her husband and her children.

There is a lot that we see to praise this woman for, but one of the things that we appreciate about her is her humble spirit. She's willing to stand in the background at times and to let her husband be the one who is esteemed out in the marketplace. Here is a woman who does not aspire for recognition herself. She is content to serve in the home and to have her husband be the one who is known in the marketplace. Here's a woman who's creating a climate at home that encourages her husband to thrive and that makes it possible for him to be successful in his work because he has no worries at home. **Proverbs 31:11 says "The heart of her husband safely trusts in her"**. He knows that things are okay at home, and as a result, he can be successful in his workplace. Here's a woman who, I believe, is taking the role of praising and encouraging her husband in the fulfillment of his dreams and his calling. Trust is a big thing with my husband and I. If there is no trust, there is no unity. This goes for the church as well. You were created to help your husband, encourage him, and call forth his gifts. In the second chapter of Genesis, God gave us the message that it was not good for man to be alone, so he made a helper suitable for Adam. He didn't make a leader suitable for Adam. He made Eve. Adam came before Eve, not Eve before Adam. Stop being the boss of everything. Stop dictating to him how you feel things should be. Let him lead. As long as we try to lead, our relationship will always be unhealthy. You just pray for him.