

The Virtuous Woman Part III

Proverbs 31:10

¹⁰A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. ²⁹Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all.

God made women for a very important purpose. Many women do good things, but virtuous women are above the price of rubies. Rubies are worth a lot, but virtuous women are worth more. Virtuous women influence their husband's leadership in good ways.

(I Timothy 3:11) It tells us about the kind of qualifications the elders and deacons wives must have. Their wives must be reverent (feeling or showing deep and solemn respect). Their wives must fear the Lord. They must not be slanderers (making a false spoken statement to damage a person's reputation) or malicious gossips (casual or unconstrained conversation or reports about other people, typically involving details that are not confirmed as being true). We have to have our tongues under control. If we don't have those qualities of a woman of virtue, we can actually disqualify our husband from having a position of spiritual authority and leadership in the church.

Proverbs 12:4 tells us that a gracious woman is a crown to her husband, and that's what this woman is. When he's out at the city gates, when he's working, when he's influencing, people say of him, "He's a good man. He's got a great wife." She's a crown to her husband. She respects him. She builds him up. She's not promoting herself, but she's functioning in a way that honors his leadership. She shows great compassion to those who are considered poor and needy. She utilizes the strength from God. She doesn't throw in the towel when things don't go her way. She is full of grace.

We all need to be the kind of woman that can encourage our husband to grow into all that God has for him. We need to pray for him. We need to allow God to work in his life. We need to allow God to grow him and mature him in those areas where he needs growth, but support him in the home. Don't make him feel less than a man. Let's create a climate in the home where our husband is encouraged to become spiritually mature and fruitful and to be used by God. Don't go around talking about him to everyone. Just help and pray for him.

Let's not second-guess who God blessed us with. Don't think that the grass is greener on the other side. God has given us exactly the husband that He knows He wants us to help, and God fashioned us to be the helper suitable to that particular man, not to someone else's man—but to our husband. Our goal, even as this virtuous woman's goal is to lift up and enhance the husband's reputation. Our goal as women, our goal as believers, is to enhance the reputation of Christ. We are to live in such a way that people say, "She's the kind of woman that makes me want to know Christ." Our goal is not to draw attention to ourselves, to build up our own reputation, to have our own career, to lift up our own abilities and talents. Our goal in life is to be a support to Christ—to lift Him up for others to think that He is known and that He is wonderful.

(Proverbs 31:23) “Her husband is known in the gates”. To those of us who are married, I want to say that when our character causes our husband’s reputation to be enhanced and built up, we are really giving to the world, as a married couple, a picture of the Church’s relationship to Christ. Remember that we’re painting a picture for those who are watching. The picture that we paint should be the one that will point them to Christ.

(Proverbs 31:25) This woman actually took the time to smile in the midst of her busy day. She learned to avoid the “joy robbers” in life.

John 10:10 states: “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full. Satan wants us to miss out on the abundant life during our stay on earth. If we want to be able to laugh at the days to come, we must not allow the enemy to steal our joy. What steals our joy?

1. When life doesn’t go according to our script
2. When we base contentment on circumstances

Philippians 4:6-8

3. Unrealistic expectations
4. When our “Worst Case Scenario” becomes a reality

Matthew 6:34

5. When we get stuck on the “Whys” of life

Let’s make a change if we’ve allowed one of the “joy robbers” to steal our laughter.

Proverbs 17:22 states: A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones. Let’s come to a place in life where we can really trust God with a calm, settled spirit. We need to trust him knowing that no matter what comes before us, “It is well with our soul”.