

TITUS 2:3-5

LESSON 4 – YOUNGER WOMEN, PART 2

GOD'S WORD FOR WOMEN TODAY

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TITUS 2:3-5 (NASB95)

“Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good, so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.”

- **In Lesson 3 we studied what God’s Word said to Titus about the younger women in the church. We will continue that topic today.**
- **There are seven areas that younger women need training for and examples of as they mature in their roles as wives and mothers.**

WHAT SHOULD BE TAUGHT?

Seven responsibilities of younger women, or areas of curriculum, that are to be taught:

- 1. To love their husbands (v. 4) (Christian marriage)**
- 2. To love their children (v. 4) (Christian parenting)**
- 3. To be sensible (v. 5) (Christian character)**
- 4. [To be] Pure (v. 5) (Christian character)**
- 5. [To be] Workers at home (v. 5) (Christian Homemaking)**
- 6. [To be] Kind (v. 5) (Christian character)**
- 7. Being subject to their own husbands (v. 5) (Christian marriage)**

#5 TO BE WORKERS AT HOME

- To be workers, keepers, at home, *oikourgous* (oy-koor-GOSS) (#3626), producers of orderliness in the home; “not necessarily occupied exclusively with household chores” (Constable)
- Occurs only here in the New Testament and rarely in secular literature
- Variety of translations indicates difficulty of this word: working at home (ESV), busy at home (NIV), “manage the house (NKJV)
- God wants wives to make homemaking a priority; a woman's home is the primary arena of her ministry.
- “Homemaking is the art of turning a house into a home, creating a beautiful and nurturing place for your family.” Joy Kincaid

#5 TO BE WORKERS AT HOME

- **“Note that there is nothing in the word’s morphology that suggests working only at home, nor does the word define the nature of the work.”**
- **“Working at home” contrasts with the activity of the younger widows, who “learn to be idlers, going about from house to house, and not only idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not” (1 Timothy 5:13).**
- **Broader biblical context also assures us that godly women can fulfill Titus 2:5 while also working outside the home (See the Proverbs 31 woman and Ruth.)**

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO BE A WORKER AT HOME?

- **“There needs to be a homemaker exercising some measure of skill, imagination, creativity, desire to fulfill needs and give pleasure to others in the family. How precious a thing is the human family. Is it not worth some sacrifice in time, energy, safety, discomfort, work? Does anything come forth without work?” ~Edith Schaeffer**
- **A high calling for me as a young wife**
- **“This job has been given to me to do. Therefore, it is a gift. Therefore, it is a privilege. Therefore, it is an offering I may make to God. Therefore, it is to be done gladly, if it is done for Him. Here, not somewhere else, I may learn God’s way. In this job, not in some other, God looks for faithfulness.” ~Elisabeth Elliot**

Christ

Is the center of our home,
a guest at every meal,
a silent listener to every
conversation.

HOMEMAKING

- **“I’ve always wanted our home to be a safe, nurturing, comforting, and inspiring place to live. A place where you can exhale and breathe deeply at the end of the day. A place that inspires creativity and the cultivation of happy family memories. In order to create this beautiful, intentional, meaningful home, hours of thought, work, and planning have to happen first. And that’s what homemaking is. Homemaking includes the vision, the planning, and the work involved in making a home.” ~Joy Kincaid**

TO BE KIND

- *Agathós*, ag-ath-OSS, (#18)
- Describes that which, being "good" in its character or constitution, is beneficial in its effect; "the good," as being morally honorable, pleasing to God, and therefore beneficial
- Good-natured (kind-hearted) (AMP); these adjectives mean having or showing a tender, considerate, and helping nature
- The kind or good woman thinks of the needs of others and goes out of her way to meet those needs; when a family member is upset or discouraged, she responds with sympathy and kind words.

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO BE KIND?

- **“A woman's role is to make her home a refuge from all of the mean-spiritedness, callousness, cruelty, and wickedness so often encountered in the outside world. Her husband often has to deal with evil in the workaday world. Her children have to battle it at school. When husband and children come home, home should seem to them like a suburb of heaven.” ~J.B. Phillips**

BEING SUBJECT TO THEIR OWN HUSBANDS

- *Hupōtassō*, (hoop-oh-TAHS-so) (#5293) from *hupo*, under, and *tasso*, to arrange in an orderly manner; to assign to a certain position or to a particular task
- Paul is saying to the young wives, "Be willing to place yourself in a position under your husband who has ultimate responsibility for your family."
- KJV has "obedient to their own husbands" but that is not an accurate translation of *hupotasso*.
- Being subject to one's husband does not imply inferiority or becoming a doormat.

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE TO BE SUBJECT TO OWN HUSBANDS?

- *Hupotasso* in contrast refers to two people who are absolutely equal in God's eyes. The wife makes a choice to place herself as an equal underneath another equal, her husband, so that there can be order and function in the family. The purpose is to fulfill the design that God has established.
- Although Jesus is equal with the Father, He voluntarily put Himself under the Father to carry out the divine plan of salvation (1 Corinthians 11:3).
- Christian marriage is to reflect the image of God. Husbands and wives are to be an earthly picture of Christ and the church, with husbands loving their wives sacrificially and wives respecting and submitting to their husbands (Ephesians 5:22-33).
- Marriage mirrors God's covenant relationship with His people.

WHY LEARN THESE 7 SKILL AREAS?

- The reason that Paul gives is, “so that the word of God will not be dishonored”. “So that” means “in order to” which answers the question “Why?*”
- “The word of God” - Clearly this has reference to the entire Word of God and especially to the Word of the Gospel
- Dishonored is *blasphemeo* (blas-fay-MEH-oh) (#987)(blas-fay-MEH-oh) means blasphemed, railed at, spoken evil of; discredited; to be spoken of slanderously
- In this case, if the young women failed to live as Paul has outlined, the message their lives proclaim is one that slandered the reputation of the Word of God.

WHY LEARN THESE 7 SKILL AREAS?

- **The purpose of the seven godly traits just mentioned is to exalt the “Word of God” and the “God of the Word.” Living like Jesus is a like a flashing sign that points others to Jesus.**
- **Those opposed to the Gospel of grace are quick to spot the inconsistent lives of those who profess to be influenced by the Gospel and don't hesitate to point out the inconsistency.**

WORD OF GOD NOT DISHONORED

- A wife who claims to be a Christian but does not demonstrate love for her husband and children, moral purity, and being a godly homemaker, and so on, is not a good display of the truth of the gospel.
- But a wife who practices these things stands out from the world's ways. Like the woman in Proverbs 31, she will be praised, and when she is praised, she will deflect the praise to the Lord, giving Him the glory.

WORD OF GOD NOT DISHONORED

- **In summary, the ungodly things we say and do, and the godly things we fail to say and do, dishonor God and His Word before a watching world.**
- **A winsome, godly life is a billboard for the truth of God's Word. Experiencing God's plan being evident in everyday lives should draw unbelievers to the Lord Jesus Christ.**
- **What does my billboard say? What does yours say?**



WORD PICTURE

- A woman deflecting the praise to the Lord, giving Him the glory:
- “When people come up and give me a compliment... I take each remark as if it were a flower. At the end of the day I lift up the bouquet of flowers I have gathered throughout the day and say, 'Here you are, Lord, it is all Yours.'”
~Corrie ten Boom



SUMMARY

“Older women [What are they to be like?]

likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good,

so that [What are they to do?]

they may encourage [Who are they to train or instruct?]

the young women [Train them to do or be what?]

to love their husbands, to love their children, to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, [Why? For what reason?]

so that the word of God will not be dishonored.”

SUMMARY

"Love your husband, love your children. Stay home. That's not an idea I came up with out of my head. That's from Titus 2. Older women are to teach, encourage, do all that they possibly can to help the younger women to do these things. My objective is to simply point you back to the Word of God." ~Elisabeth Elliot



NEXT TIME

We will deal with some questions brought up by the study of these verses:

- 1. Where are the older women who are prepared to mentor?**
- 2. Where are the younger women who would like someone to come alongside them?**
- 3. How do these two groups connect?**
- 4. Stay-at-home moms seem so old-fashioned! Does that mean God's Word is only appropriate for some other time period - not for today?**
- 5. Are there any helpful resources on these topics?**