

Titus 2:5 — “Young Womanhood: Beautifying the Gospel & Embracing God’s Call For Your Life, Part 2”

“**GOD** who created you is best qualified to declare the intention of His own acts, and you may safely, as you should humbly, trust Him to fix your position and make known your duties. In common with man, woman has a heavenly calling to glorify God as the ultimate end of her existence and to perform all the duties and enjoy all the blessings of a religious life... A woman’s position and mission is best summed up in love and subjection to her husband” (John Angell James).

As a Christian: never forget this fact about WHO YOU ARE -- your identity. You are ‘**In Christ**’. Because of that, you’re an “alien and a stranger” in this world (1 Pet 2.11).

***BUT!** Why* are things the way they are in our world? *Why* such confusion in roles? *Why* are *young women* doing and pursuing and living in certain ways?

“Titus 2 exhorts **all** women to perceive the value of being mentored and being a mentor. Younger women should consistently pursue more mature women to learn from their wisdom and experience.” (Carolyn Mahaney).

The greatest place for a Young Woman to flourish & thrive with unshakeable joy is in the home.

THESIS — From Titus 2.4-5 -- God gives us the goals & virtues of biblical, young womanhood:

1. Pursue the Delight of Loving Your Husband (v.4)
2. Enjoy the blessing of loving your children (v.4)
3. Prioritize the Safety of Self Control (v.5)
4. Cherish the Pleasure of Sexual Purity (v.5)
5. Pursue the Honor of Working at Home (v.5)
6. Anticipate the Rewards of Kindness (v.5)
7. Prize the beauty of biblical submission (v.5)

IV. CHERISH THE PLEASURE OF SEXUAL PURITY! (5a)

Pure in *heart*.

Pure in *modesty*.

- FOR A WOMAN OF GOD: We need to have self control over our own sexual passions and self control so that we do not cause another to sin because of our behavior or how we are dressed.
- The lesson we learn from this is that our personal PREFERENCE for clothing styles is **secondary** to our concern for **others** (love God, love others, THEN care for self). Fashion DOES NOT dictate what I choose to wear; MY CHARACTER dictates what we wear.
 - In other words: Fashion preferences are not dictated by culture but by character. (Lisa Tatlock)

Pure in *sexuality*.

Pure in *relationships*.

Pure in *marriage*.

Pure in *entertainment*.

V. PURSUE THE HONOR OF WORKING AT HOME! (5b)

- The home is the “*Wife’s Domain*” (Martha Peace); this is the *honorable calling* of a woman!

- Some goals for a good home environment (from Lisa Tatlock):
 1. creating a **BEAUTIFUL** home environment
 2. creating a **FUNCTIONAL** home that meets the need of family and guests
 3. creating an **ECONOMICAL** budget that stays within the parameters of the family budget
 4. creating an **INTERESTING** but unified home that reflects your unique tastes
 5. creating a **PREPARED** home to meet the needs of others.

- How do you create, cultivate, maintain and pursue a welcoming home?
 1. character is crucial
 2. organization is essential
 3. cleaning is important
 4. deference (preferring one another) is vital

“The worker at home is not popular today, but I believe that God intended of the woman, especially the younger women, to stay home and do a good job of caring for their homes and for their families. A wife who is gone with too many activities or work does not have the time nor energy to keep her home as it should be kept” (Martha Peace).

“The atmosphere we create in our home directly affects our home’s most important aspect: the relationships we have there. We want our home to have an atmosphere that allows souls to be replenished, love to flourish, and God to be glorified. Sights, sounds, smells, tastes, and touches are merely a means to minister to our loved ones while here on earth. Furnishings and fabrics will someday be gone. Food will be eaten. Music and laughter will be hushed. Fragrance will no longer fill the rooms. But the memories of the atmosphere and the relationships in our homes will live on forever. I believe the primary reason God has blessed us with our wonderful senses is so that we would stand in awe of Him and be grateful for His goodness to us!”

(Terry Willits, quoted in Lisa Tatlock; “Designing a lifestyle that pleases God — a guide for women”)

VI. ANTICIPATE THE REWARDS OF KINDNESS! (5c)

Remember: the reputation for goodness **BEGINS IN THE HOME**. At the heart of our commission as women to do good is in the well being of our family members. Our husbands and children should be the primary beneficiaries of our good works! (Carolyn Mahaney)

VII. PRIZE THE BEAUTY OF BIBLICAL SUBMISSION! (5d)

- Submission is not merely a concept for women only; doesn’t mean a woman is a slave; doesn’t mean she never opens her mouth; doesn’t mean she is a wallflower who folds up and is a doormat; never means she is inferior
- Rather, Biblical submission *is* beautiful, orderly, beneficial & a blessing!

- A woman’s submission to her own husband must be:
 1. submission is **VOLUNTARY** (out of her heart)
 2. submission is to be **CONTINUOUS**
 3. submission is **MANDATORY**
 4. submission is **SPIRITUAL** (as unto the Lord > rejection of this is rejection of God himself; it’s a test of her love for God)
 5. submission is **POSITIVE** (a good thing/for her good!)
 6. submission is **ATTITUDINAL** (not behavior/externals; inward heart disposition!)
 7. submission is **EXTENSIVE** (in everything) (Eph 5.24 - in everything).

Some of the ways that a wife might demonstrate a **lack** of submission:

1. she does things annoying to her husband (Prov 21.19)
2. she does not discipline the children as she should (Prov 29.15)
3. she is more loyal to others than to her husband (Prov 31.11)
4. she argues with him, pouts, or gives him the cold shoulder when she doesn’t get her way (Prov 21.9)
5. she exceeds the limits of the budget (Prov 19.14)
6. she corrects, interrupts, talks for her husband and is too outspoken when others are around (Prov 27.15-16)
7. she manipulates him to get her own way and speaks about him behind his back (Luke 10.40)
8. she makes important decisions without consulting him (1 Cor 11.3)
9. she worries about his decisions and then takes matters into her own hands (Phil 4.7-8)
10. she does not pay attention to what he says (James 1.19)

Verse 5b - “So that...” -- what’s the *purpose* of teaching the younger woman biblical womanhood?

Here’s the testimony of one woman:

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- “How sobering it is to realize that our behavior has the potential to discredit the gospel. But how exciting it is to think that we can actually commend the gospel!
- As verse 10 says, we can “adorn” the gospel with our lives. To “adorn” means to put something beautiful or attractive on display—like placing a flawless gemstone in a setting that uniquely shows off its brilliance. The gospel is like the most valuable of jewels. It is the pearl of great price.
- Make no mistake, by adorning the gospel, we are NOT enhancing or improving it. The gospel cannot be improved! But by cultivating the feminine qualities listed in Titus 2, we can present the gospel as attractive, impressive, and pleasing to a watching world.

The Word of God and the gospel of Christ are pure, excellent and glorious in themselves; and their excellency should be expressed and shown in the lives and conduct of their professors, especially in their relative duties (Matthew Henry).

Titus 2 calls women to a deep and profound understanding of the gospel that issues forth in a genuine and sacrificial love of family and home, a counter-cultural purity and self-control that is only possible through the power of the Holy Spirit. (Elizabeth Elliot)

O GIVE US HOMES BUILT FIRM UPON THE SAVIOR

To the tune: “Great is thy faithfulness”

O give us homes built firm upon the Savior,
Where Christ is Head, and Counselor and Guide;
Where ev’ry child is taught His love and favor
And gives his heart to Christ, the crucified:
How sweet to know that tho’ his footsteps waver
His faithful Lord is walking by his side! [repeat]

O give us homes where Christ is Lord and Master,
The Bible read, the precious hymns still sung;
Where prayer comes first in peace or in disaster,
And praise is natural speech to ev’ry tongue;
Where mountains move before a faith that’s vaster,
And Christ sufficient is for old and young. [repeat]

O give us homes with godly fathers, mothers,
Who always place their hope and trust in Him;
Whose tender patience turmoil never bothers,
Whose calm and courage trouble cannot dim;
A home where each finds joy in serving others,
And love still shines, tho’ days be dark and grim. [repeat]

O Lord, our God, our homes are Thine forever!
We trust to Thee their problems, toil, and care;
Their bonds of love no enemy can sever
If Thou art always Lord and Master there:
Be Thou the center of our least endeavor:
Be Thou our Guest, our hearts and homes to share. [repeat]

HAPPY THE HOME WHEN GOD IS THERE

To the tune: “Alas and did my Savior bleed”

Happy the home when God is there, And love fills every breast;
When one their wish, and one their prayer, And one their heav’nly rest.

Happy the home where prayer is heard, And praise is wont to rise;
Where parents love the sacred Word And all its wisdom prize.

Happy the home where Jesus’ name Is sweet to every ear;
Where children early speak His fame, And parents hold Him dear.

Lord, let us in our homes agree This blessed peace to gain;
Unite our hearts in love to Thee, And love to all will reign.