

The Godly Woman as a Wife
Introduction to Studies on Marriage & the Family



“The Lord said ... I will make him a suitable helper, completing him.”
Genesis 2:18 (Berkeley)

In the world of the 21st Century, with its uncertainty, its crumbling value systems and its many social problems and pressures, thinking people are concerned about the home. They are seeking guidelines for effective and fulfilling marriage relationships.

These studies are designed to help improve our understanding of Christian marriage with its challenges, joys, and satisfactions ... and to produce a distinctively Christian home where Christ lives-not merely a home where Christians live.

The studies leave much unsaid, but this is inevitable within the limits of a single book. We would highly recommend that you read *Heaven Help the Home* by Howard Hendricks, Victor Press and *How to Be Happy Though Married*, by Dr. Tim LaHaye, Tyndale House, as companion study books for these chapters on marriage, children and the home. These books are on the art and joy of successful family living and cover much of what's been left unsaid in these brief studies. Other helpful tapes and books are listed at the end of each chapter.

“Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ loved the church and gave himself for her.” Ephesians 5:25 (NIV)

The Basis of Marriage

1. How did God create man? Genesis 1:26-27

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2. Why did God establish the marriage relationship? Genesis 2:18

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3. Men and women desire to be married for various reasons. What are some of these motivations?

Men	Women
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4. In the Bible, God uses marriage to describe the relationship of Christ to the individual believer. What are some of the parallels you see between these two relationships?

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5. God has given us certain biblical principles which provide the basis for a truly godly marriage. From the following scriptures, state as many of these principles as you can find.

- Genesis 2:18, 24
- Ephesians 5:21-33
- Colossians 3:18, 19
- I Corinthians 7:3-5
- I Corinthians 11:3
- Genesis 18:19
- Genesis 1:26-28



6. The following are some general principles God has given to Christians. State the principle and how it also contributes to a Godly marriage.

- Ephesians 5:18
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- I Thessalonians 5:18
-
- Ephesians 4:26
-
- Colossians 3:23
-
- Ephesians 4:31, 32
-
- I Peter 4:9, Romans 12:13.....
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- Colossians 2:6-7 (Living)
-
- Philippians 4:6-7
-
- Philippians 2:3-4
-

Romans 13:8

 II Corinthians 6:14

7. Which of these principles for a Godly marriage is most lacking in your marriage? What can you do this week to begin to change this?

In order to have a godly marriage, there must be godly partners. The basis of a godly marriage begins with the individual.

8. From the following Scriptures, what are some basic truths that must be evident for God to express His likeness in us?

- a. John

- b. II Corinthians 3:18

- c. John 3:30

- d. II Peter 1:4 15:5



9. What characteristics relating to godliness do you see in these Scriptures?

- a. Genesis 6:9

- b. Hebrews 11:8

- c. Numbers 14:6-8

- d. I Kings 4:29

- e. Numbers 32:12

10. In Genesis 18:19 and Ephesians 5:22-24, we found that the husband is to lead the family. In what areas is he to lead ?.....

Is this true in your family?

11. How can a husband who desires to lead his family be kept from it?

12. Briefly describe the influence of the men and women in the following verses.

I Peter 3:7

Matthew 27:19-26

I Samuel 25:14-35

The Godly Woman

Being “A Helper Fit For Him” - Part I - Follow The Leader

Marriage is a trinity - even as God is a trinity. The parts of marriage are: spiritual, emotional and physical. Like a three-legged milk stool, if one part is missing, it becomes ineffective in its operation. Further, the very nature of marriage in its intimacy reveals the weaknesses and shortcomings of each partner. With this knowledge comes the ability to hurt deeply. We are charged before God with the privilege and responsibility of completing our husbands, of being “a helper fit for him” (Genesis 2:18). Therefore, we desperately need to know and understand the needs of our husbands and to take the necessary steps to meet them. Only in this way can we adequately fulfill our responsibility and privilege.

His Part And Mine - Or, Where Do I Fit In?

1. Study the following verses: Genesis 2:18; Ephesians 5:22-33; Colossians 3:18, 19; 1 Peter 3:7. Using the information found in these verses, write a definition for:

- a. The role of the husband
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-
- b. The role of the wife
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God's role for a wife is to be a completer, not a competitor.

2. The role of the wife is a supportive role. From the following verses list some of the ways a wife should support her husband.

- Ephesians 5:24
- Proverbs 31:12
- I Peter 3:6 (Living)
- Ephesians 5:33 (Living & Amplified)
- Proverbs 31:11
- I Peter 3:1
- I Thessalonians 5:17
- Colossians 3:13
- Ephesians 4:26-27
- Ephesians 4:2, 3 (Living)

3. According to Ephesians 5:24, 25, what one word summarizes God's chief command to husbands?

wives?

4. Check several sources, then formulate a definition of submission.

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5. From Ephesians 5:22-24, what do we learn about submission?

*“Many modern women do not like the idea of being subject to a man because they do not know the inner meaning of the command, ‘Be subject’ Both the Greek and Latin words carry the idea of throwing oneself under, as a foundation, as an assistant, or to use the biblical phrase concerning our first parents, ‘a helper fit for him’ (Genesis 2:18, 20).”
- Donald Grey Barnhouse*

6. Why do you think God requires the role of submission rather than the role of leadership for wives?

7. Comment on this statement: “Submission is an attitude before it is an act.”

8. Answer the following yes/no questions and then explain why you gave that answer to each question.

a. Can a woman be truly submitted to God and not to her husband?

Explain:

b. Does the husband's headship mean he is to operate as a dictator?

Explain:

c. Does the headship of the husband and the submission of the wife indicate that man is superior and woman is inferior?

Explain:

d. Should a wife always submit to her husband, or only when she thinks he's right?

Explain:

There is no position of superiority or inferiority when a husband and wife fulfill their God-appointed roles. Each has a different - but equally important role. They are like a lock and key - neither is more important than the other, and neither can fulfill its function without the other.

9. Is there an area of your life in which you are not submissive to your husband (and therefore not submissive to Christ)?

What will you do about it this week?

What other area of the supportive role (question #2) do you need to improve in?

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What will you do this week to improve in that area?

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“God Requires Submission Of Women Because It Suits Their Needs - Not His.” -Howard Hendricks

The Never-Fail Formula

1. Without using reference material write out your definition of love.

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2. Read I Corinthians 13 in several translations. Write out the one thing which stands out to you most

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3. From verses 1-3, list some things-which are good in themselves, but which are worthless without love.

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4. True love always expresses itself. The following action words for love have been taken from several translations of the Bible. Take each one and write out in your own words: 1) *what it means* and 2) *how it works in the home*:

a. Love is patient.

1)

.....

2)

.....

b. Love is kind.

1)

.....

2)

.....

c. Love is not jealous.

1)

.....

2)

.....

d. Love is not boastful.

1)

.....

2)

.....

- e. Love has good manners.
 - 1)
 - 2)
- f. Love is not selfish.
 - 1)
 - 2)
- g. Love is not arrogant.
 - 1)
 - 2)
- h. Love is not irritable.
 - 1)
 - 2)
- i. Love is not resentful.
 - 1)
 - 2)

5. From verse 7 of I Corinthians 13, choose the one aspect which seems most important. Give an example of how it should work in marriage or in the home.

- a. My choice:
- b. How it should work:

6. From I Corinthians 13:1-7 answer the following questions.

- a. What is your greatest need at this time?
- b. How does this need manifest itself ?
- c. What steps will you take this week, with God's help, to improve in this area of need?

Suggestions For Further Study

- Tape 1060 - Difficulties In the Walk of Love, Shirley Rice
- Tape 1061 - Submission, Shirley Rice
- Tape 1155 - Role and Responsibility of the Wife, Howard Hendricks
- Tape 1180 - Role and Responsibility of the Wife, Irma Warr

For Women Only, by Peterson, Tyndale House

The Godly Woman
Being "A Helper Fit For Him" Part II - His Home Is His Castle

Setting The Atmosphere Of The Home

A wife is called upon to create the environment and right climate in which the tender plants of love and marriage can grow and flourish.

1. Think back through the past week:
 - a. In the time shared with your husband before he left the house, what kind of atmosphere did you set for the day?

- b. When you greeted him upon returning home, what kind of atmosphere did you set for the remainder of the day or evening?
 -
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2. What principles for helping to set a good atmosphere in the home do you find in Ephesians 4:26-27, 29-32?
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3. What do you think your own attitude and appearance have to do with setting the atmosphere? Explain.
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4. What have you taught your children regarding how they can help set a good atmosphere when their daddy arrives home?.....
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Fulfilling Your Husband's Needs

1. Try to put yourself in your husband's place: What do you think he needs most during the first 30 minutes after arriving home from work?
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2. How do you greet your husband when he comes home? (e.g. - with a "recital" of all the problems you've faced during the day? with a loving look, or word, or touch? with indifference? with coldness? with joy and warm affection? with "If you think you've had a hard day, wait until you hear about mine!")(?)
-
3. How can you apply Mark 10:45 in this matter of meeting your husband's needs?
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4. What is your honest desire- to "minister" to your husband, or to "be ministered unto" by him?

5. How can you apply the promise given in Luke 6:38 to your situation?
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Some of a husband's greatest needs are:

- a. to be admired
- b. to know he's important to you
- c. to have you show interest in him and in his work
- d. to be accepted just the way he is

6. What are you doing to meet your husband's need for admiration?
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7. List the things you admire about your husband's manliness
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.....

Now look for opportunities to tell him these things!

8. How do you communicate to your husband that he is very important, very "special" to you?
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.....

9. What keeps you from showing your husband you are interested in him and his work?
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.....

10. TRUE/FALSE. Demonstrating to your husband that you accept him involves:

- a. Expressing your acceptance
- b. Maintaining a self-righteous attitude
- c. Using other men as a shining example
- d. Looking to his better side

11. On a separate sheet, list all of your husband's good characteristics - all the things that first made you love him, things that make up his "better side."

12. During this week look for many natural opportunities to verbalize your appreciation of these good characteristics he possesses. Make a check mark by each one you are able to share with him. (Keep the list handy to add to, and to refer to when negative thoughts begin to crowd into your mind and dominate your thinking.)

Communication

“The heart of marriage is its communication system. It can be said that the success and happiness of any married pair is measurable in terms of the deepening dialogue which characterizes their union.” - Dwight Small

1. Define Communication:

2. On a scale of 1-10 (with 10 being the highest or best), how would you rate the communication between you and your husband?

3. In your opinion, what are some causes that hinder, or block, or even cause meaningful communication to cease?

4. Words are not the only communicators. How else do we communicate?

Suppose a wife greets her husband with “I thought you'd never get home.” The various messages a wife could be giving in this statement and how a husband would interpret the meaning of the words are:

5. What part does attentive listening play in good communications?

6. What does Amos 3:3 teach us about communications?

7. **Communication Aids.** Under each verse below list:

- 1) The basic principle described in this verse,
- 2) The opposite of this principle, and
- 3) The problems in communication caused by not following this principle.

a. Ephesians 4:15

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

b. Ephesians 4:26-27

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

c. Ephesians 4:29

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

d. Proverbs 15:1

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

e. Proverbs 18:13

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

f. James 1:19

- 1)
- 2)
- 3)

8. In the following verses what are the problems or barriers to communication in a marriage.

Problems or Barriers

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Scriptures

- Luke 6:31
- Proverbs 13:10
- Ephesians 4:31
- Ephesians 4:26
- Philippians 2:3,4
- Proverbs 10:8
- Esther 4:11
- John 3:19,20
- Isaiah 53:6
- Jeremiah 17:9

9. If a couple was having problems communicating and asked your help, what advice or counsel would you give them?

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10. Where do you fall short in communication?

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What one thing will you do this week to improve the situation?

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Non-verbal communication can do a great deal to deepen love's dialogue. What things that are important to your husband will you do this week to communicate to him nonverbally "I love you"?

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Godly Homemaking

“Being a homemaker is the great adventure God entrusted to a married woman, and her influence spreads beyond her imagination. It will take the very best any woman has to offer. It cannot be her casual interest; it must be her major concern. It will drive her to a life with God that is deep and rich and will mean the unconscious expansion of her puny soul.” - Gladys M. Hunt

1. Circle the word (s) that make the following statement true: My husband does / does not enjoy our home. What explanation can you give for this?

Phillips Brooks said, "Duty makes us do things well, but love makes us do them beautifully."

2. Use the following words as you write a paragraph on “Being a Godly Homemaker”

- contentment
- perfection
- selfishness
- consistency
- sense of humor
- prayer
- schedule
- consideration of needs and desires of family
- creativity
- outside activities
- compulsiveness
- comfort
- beauty

Being A Godly Homemaker

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3. Ask your husband how you may improve and please him more in your role as homemaker. Thank him for his suggestions and begin to carry them out.

Suggestions For Further Study

- Tape 1063 - Atmosphere of the Home, Shirley Rice
- Tape 1062ABA - Communication Between Husband and Wife, Shirley Rice
- Tape 2136 - Communicating - An Art to Be Learned, Ruth Myers
- Tape 2137 - Simplifying Life, Ruth Myers

Total Woman, by Marabel Morgan, Fleming Revell

The Godly Woman

Being “A Helper Fit For Him” – Part III - Being His Queen



One definition Webster gives for the word “Queen” is: “A woman foremost, or judged to be foremost among others in certain attributes or accomplishments.”

The goal of each wife should be “to be foremost among others in certain attributes or accomplishments” which are important to her husband so that he will exclaim “There are many fine women in the world, but you are the best of them all.” Proverbs 31:29 (Living)

The queenly attributes or accomplishments which we will cover are: attitudes, appearance, and character.

Attitudes

1. Match up the following bad attitudes with one of the verses of Scripture.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------|
| a. Nagging | Proverbs 17:9 |
| b. Self-pity, complaining | Proverbs 12:25 |
| c. Being negative & critical | Proverbs 21:9 (Amplified) |
| d. Being a dream-buster | Jude 16 (Berkeley) |
| e. Talking too much | Numbers 13:27-33 |
| f. Having bitterness, resentment | Proverbs 18:2 |
| g. Never letting a matter die | Hebrews 12:15 |
- (continuing to rehearse an offense or mistake)*

2. Study Proverbs 14:1 and then write in your own words what this means to you

3. The following verses offer some antidotes for bad attitudes: Matthew 21:22; Philippians 4:8; Isaiah 43:18; I Thessalonians 5:18; Proverbs 14:1; Ephesians 4:31, 32; Psalm 141:3. Find the positive antidote in each of the above verses and list it beside the bad attitude it would best help eliminate.

<i>Attitude</i>	<i>Verse</i>	<i>Antidote</i>
Nagging
Self-pity, complaining
Negative, critical
Dream-buster
Talking too much
Bitterness or resentment
Never letting a matter die

4. Which of these negative attitudes are you most guilty of?
5. What will you do this week to break this habit pattern and allow God to change you?

Appearance

1. Is I Peter 3:3, 4 speaking of prohibition or priority? Explain your answer
2. I Samuel 16:7-If God looks on the heart, why does our appearance matter?
3. Answer the following questions with a “yes” or “no”.
 - a. Do you consult your husband about your choice of clothes?
 - b. Does he cast the deciding vote on the clothes you buy?
 - c. Do you dress to please him?
 - d. Do you wear things he disapproves of?
 - e. Are you paying less attention to keeping attractive now than before your marriage?
 - f. Do you seek to freshen up and look attractive before your husband arrives home?
4. What should be the motive and guiding principles for the Christian wife in determining her appearance? See Matthew 5:16, Luke 16:10
5. What will you work on this week to seek to be more attractive to your husband?

Character - *Character is a person's distinctive qualities or traits.*

1. Integrity
 - a. Define integrity in your own words
 - b. What truths about integrity can be discovered from the following verses?
 - 1) Job 2:3.....
 - 2) Psalm 7:8.....
 - 3) Psalm 25:21.....
 - 4) Psalm 41:12.....
 - 5) Proverbs 11:3.....
 - 6) Proverbs 20:7.....

2. Consistency and Faithfulness

- a. What do we learn about our God from Malachi 3:6 and Hebrews 13:8?
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- b. How does this apply to us in our marriage relationship?
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- c. What does James 1:8 warn against?
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- d. Why did his enemies have difficulty in finding fault with Daniel? Danuel 6:4
.....
- e. What kind of a servant did Jesus commend in Matthew 25:21?
.....
- f. What can we discover about faithfulness from Luke 16:10-21?
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3. Emotional Stability and Maturity

- a. How would you define emotional stability and maturity?
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- b. List some characteristics that are evident in one who is emotionally stable and mature.
- c. What one thing out of this list are you most lacking in?
What will you do this week with God's help to bring that area of weakness or sin under Christ's control?
- d. What negative emotions do you find most difficult to handle? (e.g. anger, envy, jealousy, nervousness, anxiety, etc.)
- e. What helps you most to overcome times of depression or "feeling low"?
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Remember, our negative emotions and other negative personality traits CAN be changed to the degree that our lives are brought under the control of the Holy Spirit. He is in the business of transforming our temperaments as we learn to walk in the Spirit. Tim LaHaye has two very excellent books on this which we highly recommend: Transformed Temperaments and Spirit-Controlled Temperament.

Suggestions For Further Study

Tape 1062ABB - Women's Moods, Shirley Rice
Tape 1295 - God's Beauty Contest, Irma Warr

How to Win Over Depression, by Dr. Tim LaHaye, Zondervan

The Godly Woman

Being "A Helper Fit For Him" - Part IV - Sex Is Fun-Enjoy It!

The sexual part of marriage is perhaps the least spoken to, and yet one of the most important. The Bible gives some clear directions which we will do well to heed.



1. When did God create sex? Genesis 1:27, 28

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Was this before or after sin entered the world?Therefore, is the sexual relationship within marriage sinful?

2. Why is sexual intercourse wrong outside of marriage and right within the bonds of marriage?

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Marriage and sex are of divine origin. Grace perfects them. Sin perverts them.

3. From the following verses, list some reasons you believe God instituted sex and marriage.

Psalm 127:3-5

I Corinthians 7:2-5.....

Genesis 2:24

4. Write out in your own words the meaning of I Corinthians 7:2-5 and then write how this should operate in marriage.

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5. Explain what you think is meant by this statement: "A woman's greatest sex organ is her mind."

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The sex act to a man is mainly physical. To a woman it is not only physical but emotional and spiritual. It is the closest thing to totally giving herself that a woman can express in an act. This being true, a woman will not and cannot function well sexually while torn up emotionally. A satisfactory sexual relationship is mainly a husband's project. A sexual conflict may exist between husband and wife if there is a feeling of competition, resentment carried over from courtship, too large an age difference or differing sexual drives. The husband may have personal problems of feeling inadequate sexually, or being domineering and selfish. The wife's problem may spring from inner fears, pain in the relationship, puritanical ideas, or feelings of guilt and being used instead of loved. Sexual conflict may also be caused by a physical health problem in either party, a lack of time (too much to do) or simply tiredness. The first step in solving any problem is determining the cause.

6. How would you counsel a woman who came to you with the following problems:

a. Intercourse is just a duty to me which I escape as often as possible.

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b. I feel it would be wrong for me to really enjoy sex.

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.....

c. I withhold sex as a weapon to get my own way or as a punishment when my husband displeases me.

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d. I don't get any fulfillment or satisfaction or release from sexual intercourse.

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e. My husband gets satisfied very quickly and often leaves me frustrated.

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f. My husband seems to think only of sex ! He wants sexual relations far more often than I do.

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g. By the time we're ready for bed, I'm too tired to think of having intercourse.

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h. My sexual desire and ability to be sexually aroused seems to be dwindling. What should I do?

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The Godly Woman

Using The Home As A Place Of Ministry

A Christian home is a mighty tool in the hands of God to convince a lost and dying world of the reality of Jesus Christ. The warm atmosphere of such a home is often the climate necessary to bring a skeptical unbeliever to the point of considering the claims of Christ. Having friends in for coffee or for a meal, starting a neighborhood Bible discussion group, making the home available for prayer groups, and allowing God to express Himself to others through hospitality, are some ways a home can be used.



1. Home is a place to which people come or from which people go.
 - a. Which of these is more important?
 - Why
 - b. How would you define hospitality? Titus 1:8, Romans 12:13
 -
 - c. What is the significance of giving a person a meal? See Luke 19:5-10. Luke 24:28-31
 -

2. In the story recorded in Luke 10:29-37, how would you describe a neighbor?
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3. What was the governing power behind Paul's ministry? II Corinthians 5:14, 15
-

4. What is the purpose of ministering to others? Ephesians 4:11-16, Colossians 1:28, 29
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5. Note the following examples of hospitality. Write down:
 - 1) *who gave the hospitality*
 - 2) *who received it, and*
 - 3) *what blessings the ones who gave the hospitality received as a result of it. You may have to read further in the assigned portions to discern this.*
 - a. Genesis 18:1-8
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)

- b. Genesis 2-1:17-20
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)
- c. Joshua 2:1-16
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)
- d. I Kings 17:10-24
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)
- e. II Kings 4:8-11
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)
- f. Luke 10:38-42
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)
- g. Acts 16:14, 15
 - 1)
 - 2)
 - 3)

6. To whom should we offer hospitality?

- a. Leviticus 19:33, 3-1
- b. Isaiah 58:7
- c. Matthew 25:34-46
- d. I Peter 4:9
- e. III John 5-8



7. What are some of the reasons we should show hospitality?

- a. Isaiah 60:11
- b. Ecclesiastes 11:1
- c. Hebrews 13:1,2

8. To whom are we not to extend hospitality? II John 10-11

9. Who is the most hospitable couple you know?

The Godly Woman As A Mother
Responsibilities To Our Children



“Your children are God's assignment or commission, and He does not waste children on parents. He knows the very kind to send you. Did you think God gave you children because of what you could do for them? That's only one part. He gave them because of what they could do for you. You can meet your children's particular needs and they can meet yours in a unique and special way.” - *Howard Hendricks*

1. What are the various words used in Psalm 127 to describe children?

What do each of these words mean to you?

2. Who is responsible for training the children?
a. Proverbs 1:8

b. Proverbs 29:15-17

What is the mother's responsibility?

3. What are the parents' responsibilities in the following verses:
a. Ephesians 6:4

b. Deuteronomy 6:1-7

c. Proverbs 2:1, 3:1, 4:1, 5:1, 7:1

4. How are we to love our children?
a. Matthew 3:17

b. Genesis 22:2

c. II Samuel 18:33

d. Luke 8:40-42 & -19-56

e. I Corinthians 13:4-7

5. Define the following terms:

- a. Teach
- b. Instruct
- c. Train
- d. Discipline
- e. Nurture

6. What does Psalm 127:3 teach us concerning our responsibility?

7. What are children like?

- a. I Corinthians 14:20
- b. I Corinthians 3:1-3
- c. Mark 10:15.....

8. A lack of security plagues the younger generation today. They are grasping for something stable, un-moveable, and real. From the following Scriptures, list some things we can do as a parent to help our children be secure:

- a. Proverbs 22:6
- b. Proverbs 14:26 (Living)
- c. II Corinthians 1:17-19 (Living)
- d. Matthew 18:10-14
- e. Proverbs 3:11, 12

9. What is the learning process?

- a. James 1:2-4
- b. II Peter 1:12-15

Note the spiral of learning: repetition, experience, relearning, experience and so forth. This should produce progressive change upward toward more complete understanding.

10. Where else do children learn apart from the home?

- a. Proverbs 1:10-14
- b. Psalm 119:105
- c. John 14:26
- d. I Samuel 12:23

11. Read Hebrews 12:5-11 in at least three translations. Then record what, to you, are the four most important aspects of this passage.

- a.
- b.
- c.
- d.

12. Match the following Scriptures with the principles involved regarding discipline:

<i>Principles</i>	<i>Scriptures</i>
Expression of love	Matthew 5:37
Don't nag	Proverbs 13:24
Be consistent	Ecclesiastes 5:5
Be fair	Genesis 37:3
Be impartial	James 1:8
Use an inanimate object	Acts 10:34
Fulfill every promise	Proverbs 23:13, 14
Don't lose your temper	Proverbs 25:28
Get the facts	Proverbs 18:13
Do it now	Ecclesiastes 8:11

13. What can be the result of undisciplined children?

- a. I Samuel 3:13
- b. Titus 1:16, I Timothy 3:4
- c. Proverbs 29:15
- d. Proverbs 19:18 (Living) "Discipline your son in his early years while there is hope. If you don't you will ruin his life."

Proper discipline is a crying need of every child.

14. What are some of the reasons mothers do not discipline their children?

15. Children also need encouragement. Match the ways of encouragement with the following Scriptures:

Ways	Scriptures
Be kind and understanding	James 1:19
Listen to them	Proverbs 31:26
Take time for them	Ecclesiastes 3:1
Take time with them	John 21:3-6
Be interested in their interests	Mark 3:14
Show your love and approval	1 John 3:18

16. In what ways have your children been a spiritual blessing to you?

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17. From the following examples from the Word of God, what would you say is one of the greatest influences in forming a child's character? John 4:53, Job 1:5, Mark 5:22-24, 41, 42

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18. Write in these columns what you feel your strengths and weaknesses are as a parent.

STRENGTHS	WEAKNESSES
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Suggestions For Further Study

- Tape 1150AB - Child Rearing - Part 1, Howard Hendricks
- Tape 1151AB - Child Rearing - Part 2, Howard Hendricks
- Tape 1152AB - Child Rearing - Part 3, Howard Hendricks
- Tape 971A - Disciplining Your Child, Joe Temple
- Tape 971B - Restricting Your Child, Joe Temple
- Tape 26 - Parent-Child Relationship, George Sanchez
- Tape 1064 - Spiritual Goals for the Child, Shirley Rice
- Tape 1065 - The Child's Two Needs: Love and Discipline, Shirley Rice
- Tape 1807 - Priesthood of Parents - Part 1, Larry Christensen
- Tape 1808 - Priesthood of Parents - Part 2, Larry Christensen
- Tape 1811 - God's Order for Parents - Part 1, Larry Christensen
- Tape 1812 - God's Order for Parents - Part 2, Larry Christensen
- Tape 1965 - God's Order for Children, Larry Christensen

- Parents on the Run by Willard & Marguerite Beecher, Julian Press
- Dare to Discipline by James Dobson, Tyndale House
- Children, Fun or Frenzy by Mr. and Mrs. Al Fabrizio, Box 182, Palo Alto, California
- Heaven Help the Home, by Howard Hendricks, Victor Press
- Understanding Your Children, by Dr. Clyde Narramore, Zondervan publishers.

The Godly Woman As A Mother

Practical Helps

1. We can't make Christ a reality to them if He is not to us. II Timothy 1:5
2. Practice what you want them to practice. I Corinthians 11:1
 - a. Disciples are followers. Children follow and imitate us; we're making disciples after our own pattern of living. Philippians 4:9
 - b. If we want them to have our characteristics, have them around. Mark 3:14a
3. Pray for wisdom. James 1:5
4. Mom and Dad *TOGETHER* in discipline. Psalm 133:1
5. Encourage and support one another regarding the children. Deuteronomy 3:28a
6. Don't be touchy or over-protective regarding the children. Proverbs 28:25a
7. Prayer-keep the children committed. I Samuel 1:27, 28
8. Watch parental pride. It is easy to require too much when we want to make an impression. Philippians 2:3, 4

Principles for Encouragement

1. Be tolerant and understanding. Proverbs 31:26
2. Be a good listener. Give your undivided attention. James 1:19
3. Take time for them. Your presence means everything.
4. Plan family activities. Ecclesiastes 3:1
5. Consider them in family decisions.
6. Be interested in their interests. John 21:3-6
7. Be vocal in expressions of love. Let them know you love them and look for ways to show love. I John 3:18



Principles for Discipline or Training

1. Discipline only in the principles. (i.e. disobedience, dishonesty, disrespect, untruthfulness, etc.) Proverbs 29:17
2. Discipline *FIRMLY* but *NOT* in temper. Colossians 3:21
3. Set realistic standards and requirements. Amos 7:7
 - a. Not too high. Don't expect too much; it results in trouble. Superimposed spirituality now means carnality later. Matthew 15:8
 - b. Plan to keep them. Proverbs 13:19
 - c. Let children know what is expected. Be sure it is clear. Proverbs 22:6
 - d. Be consistent. James 1:6
 - e. Avoid "if you do that again" syndrome.
 - f. Don't expose them to public ridicule.
 - g. Don't indulge them.
 - h. Be willing to apologize when needed.
 - i. Don't nag.
4. Get children to help. I Samuel 16:11
5. The greatest thing parents can do for their children is to love one another.

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*To All of these this Bible study is lovingly dedicated – **Irma Warr***