The Godly Woman as a Disciple
The Christ-Centered Life

The Christ Centered Life - *Introduction to The Wheel Illustration*

The following four sections are a study of The Christ-Centered Life illustrated in *The Wheel Illustration*. Each of these sections is meant to be studied as separate assignments. Since they are rather short you may feel your class needs a longer assignment. If so, you may wish to assign them some of the additional questions or projects given in the Teacher's Guide.

However, it would be impossible to overestimate the value of these chapters on The Wheel (The Christ-Centered Life). So do not rush through them. Take the time necessary to be sure each one in the class grasps the necessity of Christ being the center of their lives and the importance of living a balanced Christian life.

The Hub and The Rim: Christ the Center & Obedience to Christ (Part I)

A. Object of The Lesson

1. To present an overview of the balanced Christian life.

2. To communicate the necessity of Christ being the very center of one's life and to show how this is achieved only through obedience to His Word.

B. Discussion Questions

General Questions on the Wheel:

1. In what ways do you feel the Christian life is illustrated by The Wheel? (A wheel must have a hub to function. Likewise, Christ must be our hub - our center. A wheel must have all of its spokes and they must be equal to give balanced action. Likewise, the basics must be present and in balance for the Christian to be effective.)
2. What is your opinion of the Wheel illustration?
3. Why is nothing of the fruit of the Spirit mentioned? (Galatians 5:22,23)
4. Why are these specific four spokes used? (Because they are the *basics* of the Christian life. If these are in balance all other areas of the Christian's life will progress.)

Questions On the Hub:

1. What is the function of the Hub of the wheel? (It furnishes the driving power and bears the weight of the wheel)

2. How does this apply to the Christian life? (Christ provides the driving power for the Christian life and bears the weight of our lives. I Peter 5:7)

3. If Christ is the center of our lives, furnishing all the driving power, how much power do we have? (Ephesians 3:20,21; Colossians 2:9,10; Matthew 28:18)

4. Whose responsibility is it to live the Christian life? (Christ - He alone is capable of living the Christian life. He will finish what He began in us - Philippians 1:6.)

5. What then is our part? (John 15:5; abiding in Him)

6. What does "abiding" mean? (Resting or staying in Him, allowing Him to live His life in and through us, i.e. obeying)

7. Why do you think Hebrews 13:8 was included as a reason for Christ being the center of our lives? Share your answer to question 2. What are other centers?

Questions On the Rim (Obedience to Christ Part 1):

1. In Exodus 19:5, how can we become God's peculiar treasure through obedience and still have it be grace? (obedience is the channel through which His grace comes)

2. In I Peter 1:22, explain how obedience purifies our souls?

3. Look at question 7 in your book. Name some of the sacrifices people use as substitutes for obedience.

4. Read John 14:21 again. Why is obedience so important (proof of Lordship, proof of our love for Christ; it is best for us, and it is necessary before the Father will manifest - or make Himself known - to us).

5. In your experience, has God ever made Himself known to you as a result of obedience? Explain.

6. How did you answer number 11?

7. Why do we disobey?

8. What is the time element in obedience? (Psalm 119:59, 60)

C. Suggestions For Conclusion

Teacher, here are some possible questions to help the women apply the truths from this lesson:

1. What are some of the substitutions people make for Christ in the center of their lives? (Question 2)

2. Is Christ the center of your life, or have you substituted someone or something else?

3. Are you living a balanced Christian life? Do each of the four basic spokes have their rightful place in my life? If not, which areas do I need to work on?

4. What practical step can I take this week to begin to bring my life into balance as a Christian?

Have a moment of silent prayer during which you suggest that they covenant with God about faithfully doing this week whatever application He has brought to their minds today.

D. Additional Scriptures

Matthew 7:24-27; Galatians 2:20; Colossians 1:27; Romans 12:1,2; Luke 6:46

E. Possible Projects

1. Draw the wheel and share it with someone this week.

2. Pick out one area of disobedience, find a verse that fits that area, and pray each day this week for victory in this area.

3. Ask God in prayer each morning to reveal areas of your life that aren't committed to Him. (Psalm 139:23,24), then commit them to Him - particularly the one God has shown you that day.

4. Covenant to spend at least ten minutes in the Word and prayer each morning.

F. Extra Helps

Complete in Christ by Andrew Murray
The Saving Life of Christ by Ian Thomas
We Would See Jesus by R. Hession
A Call to Commitment by Elizabeth O'Connor, Harper & Row
*True Discipleshi*p by McDonald
Audio 832 - "Christ-Centered Life"

***In Part II, on the Lordship of Christ we will be suggesting an application taken from a pamphlet called "My Heart, Christ's Home" by Dr. Robert B. Munger. It would be good to have these to pass out as you begin Chapter 4. We suggest you call a Christian bookstore near you and see if they carry this booklet. If not, you may order them from: ***InterVarsity Press*.**