

THE CHRISTIAN WIFE

INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Genesis 2:18-24.**
- B. This is the 4th in a series of 7 lessons on God's Woman of Valor.
- C. This morning, **God's Woman of Valor: The Xian Wife.**

I. **SOME SCRIPTURES ABOUT THE CHRISTIAN WIFE.**

The NT gives instruction about the He and conduct for ladies who are married. Some passages are:

- A. Colossians 3:18 (and Eph. 5:22).
Wives be subject to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord.
- B. Ephesians 5:24.
But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.
- C. Ephesians 5:33.
Nevertheless let each individual among you also love his own wife even as himself, and let the wife see to it that she respect her husband.
- D. 1Corinthians 7:2.
But because of immoralities, let each man have his own wife, and let each woman have her own husband.
- E. 1Corinthians 7:3-4.
Let the husband fulfill his duty to his wife, and likewise also the wife to her husband. The wife does not have authority over her own body, but the husband does; and likewise also the husband does not have authority over his own body, but the wife does.

II. **TEN COMMANDMENTS OF CHRISTIAN WIVES.**

- A. One, **honor your own womanhood.**
 - 1. It is a wonderful thing to be a woman. You have so much to offer by virtue of the God-given qualities that you have. The world wants to mix the roles of men and women, but God "created them male and female" (Gen. 2:18-24).
 - 2. Your husband doesn't really want another "man around the house" he wants a wife who is proud of who she is and gives honor to her womanhood.
- B. Two, **expect not more than what you already have.**
 - 1. You may have grown up in a home that provided you more things and opportunities than what your husband can provide for you now.
 - 2. Learn to be content with what you have and what your husband can provide (Phil. 4:11-12).
- C. Three, **forget not the virtue of good humor.**
 - 1. The world will deal with your husband in a very cruel way. Most everyday his ego will be attacked and his self-worth challenged. He may often come home feeling worthless and unappreciated.
 - 2. At the risk of being too frivolous, have a good sense of humor to lighten a situation that may be weighing heavy on your husband's life. Show him that he is loved and appreciated not because he is the "butt of a joke" but because even though life can be cruel, it can be laughed at too (Phil. 4:4).
- D. Four, **do not nag your husband.**
 - 1. Men do not like to be told what to do. Instead of saying, "Can you do this... or "This needs to be done..." say; "Will you please do this for me..." or "Would you be so kind to..."
 - 2. The commercial says, "Know when to say when." If you husband is having a bad day... go easy on him. But, if he is in a good mood... then get out of him all you can! (Eph. 4:29).
- E. Five, **coddle your husband and fuss over him.**
 - 1. As much as possible be interested in the things he is interested in. He will have hobbies that will help him to relax. As much as he wants your participation, give it to him.

2. When you husband wins an award, or get a promotion, or has something good happen in his life, be sure to shower him with praise. He won't get the "big head" as quick as you might think. Remember the world is a great place to feel worthless; the more you can build him up the better the two of you will be (Eph. 5:33).
- F. Six, **your husband's approval is worth more than the glances of strangers.**
1. Part of your life should be to please your husband. Too many women may be looking for the praise of men rather than the approval of God. As you go about your duties, whether they be at home, or on the job, be sure that what you are doing meets with your husband's approval.
 2. Furthermore, try and surprise him every once and awhile w/something special or out of the ordinary. (I send Bonnie flowers every now and then, for no reason at all!) See 2Tim. 2:3-7.
- G. Seven, **forget not the grace of cleanliness and good apparel.**
1. Men are more concerned about the appearance of their wives than 'you ladies may think. They feel proud and valuable when their wife looks good. Keep your appearance attractive by being sure to practice the grace of cleanliness and good apparel.
 2. Watching you weight, how you wear your make-up, the fashions that you choose, etc., are all something you will want to talk to your husband about. Find out what he desires for you and then come to an agreement about it (1Tim. 2:9-10).
- H. Eight, **do not let others complain about your husband.**
1. This can be especially true in one's family. They may not like having your husband as their brother-in-law, uncle, or nephew. But you must defend your husband for the person that he is (not the sin he may commit) and tell everyone that you love your husband.
 2. Sin of neutrality, when your husband is spoken evil of is a grave danger to your marriage. Stand up for your husband and he will stand up for you (Eph. 5:33).
- I. Nine, **keep your home with all diligence.**
1. Men like to think of their home as their castle. It is something they can be proud of because it helps symbolize the care and provision that he has made for his family. He can feel a greater sense of worth when he comes home to a house the neat and orderly. If you work outside the home then, it will be more difficult to keep the house straight.
 2. Tell you husband that you like your home. Let him know that it fits your needs and it is a place where you feel safe, comfortable, and loved. He will have the feedback he needs to know that he is being a good provider.
- J. Ten, **commit all your ways unto the Lord for your husband and children's sake.**
1. In a world that is ever changing; with jobs sometimes hanging in the balance, or if sales for the previous month are down, husbands like to see things that give them a feeling of stability and assurance. If you, as Xian wives, can be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, it will be a wonderful "safety net" for your husband. You will be someone that he can count on when everything else seems to be in a state of flux (1Cor. 15:58).
 2. You can make the home a very stable and secure environment for your husband and your children by remaining faithful to the Lord and His church. You should be faithful for your own sake, but realize you need to be faithful for their sake too.

CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.

- A. God needs faithful women to do His will.
- B. Go over the "ten commandments" in the days to come and find ways you can incorporate them into your life. You (and your husband) will see a difference in your own personal discipline.
- C. Next lesson: God's Woman of Valor, The Xian Deaconess.
- D. To become a woman of valor, one must obey X.
- E. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.