**“God’s Priorities For Today’s Woman*-Discovering His Plan for You”***

**By Lisa Hughes -Spring 2021**

***PART 2 -- THE ART OF FOLLOWING GOD’S PRIORITIES***

Tuesday, April 13th -Chapter 12– *“The Art of Caring for Your Home”*

*“Women are to be workers at home---and for that, they need to be at home. How much a woman needs to remain at home in order to fulfill her priorities as stated in Titus 2:3-5 depends on the woman, her school or career status, the size of her family, the ages of her children, the needs of her husband, and so on. Whatever her situation, it is clear that she is to work at caring for her home.” (pg. 189)*

**T**his chapter brings us to a *hot button* that many women struggle with—being a “homeworker.” p.177

**H**uge misconceptions and misunderstandings abound on this topic, but God’s Word brings clarity and balance.

**E**quipping younger women in this area is a must! Older women must train the younger woman in God’s priorities.

**A**home-worker first of all does not neglect her home and her family by being lazy, a gossip and a busybody. p.179

**R**egrettably, these characteristics from 1 Timothy 5:13-15 are what many people today think a “home-maker” is.

**T**his kind of woman reveals that her passions, desires, and priorities aremore self-centered thanhome-centered.

**O**h how we need God’s wisdom to differentiate from the woman who is “at home” fromthe“worker at home.”

**F**aithfully fulfilling God’s calling in our lives, we must first take a serious look at the qualities God desires in us.

**C**hristian woman for ages have been challenged by the “Bible’s Homemaking Expert”—the Proverbs 31 woman!

**A**ware that the P’31 woman can be intimidating to us, we must not run *from* her but run *to* her and learn.

**R**eady to spend a little time looking at the actions and attitudes that workers at home should possess? Let’s do it!

**I**must daily and continually look fo**r specific** ways to do my husband good and work to build up my family…p.181

**N**ot that easy, some of you may say. Why? Because sinful thoughts and selfish attitudes still plague our hearts.

**G**od is so gracious though. He will help us have the right attitudes about our husbands and homes when we confess and turn from our sinful attitudes and cry out to Him to change us.

**F**or not only does the P31 work with her hands in delight, but she looks for ways to benefit/bless her family.p.182

**O**ur goal as wives is to daily plan and prepare our hearts, hands and homes with humility, creativity, and variety.

**R**ealizing my need for divine assistance,I can prepare and provide for the day’s activities in the fruit of the Spirit.

**Y**ou and I cannot come close to accomplishing a day’s tasks without first spending time in the Word and in prayer.

**O**ur time with the Lord, is critical to becoming spiritually, emotionally and physically fitfor serving our family.

**U**nderstandingthe importance of our spiritual/emotional and physical health will aide us to tackle the tough days.

**R**emember, a worker at home not only plans ahead to meet the needs of her family but is also prepared to meet the needs of those outside her family. p.186-187

**H**omeworkers are representatives of God’s priorities. God’s priority for you is to work at blessing your family.

**O**ur behaviour, words, and appearance can seriously effect our family’s reputation for the better or worse.

**M**ay our hearts continue to be moldable by our dear Saviour as He endeavors to conform us more into His image.

**E**ngaging with the Proverbs 31 woman we have seen that the fruit of her actions and the deeds of her life became a testimony of her godly choices. p.188

“Over the course of her lifetime, P31 devoted herself to the priorities and duties God gave her. She faithfully attended to the responsibilities God entrusted to her by caring for her home. And even if you don’t have a home, or husband, or children, you can still steadfastly practice the principles we have learned from P31. The goal for every woman, no matter what her circumstance, is to examine how she is attending to the specific priorities God has given ***her***.” p.188

**God desires for us to joyfully be “workers at home” for the glory of God!**

Looking forward to our next morning study (9:30 a.m. “Zoom”) and evening study (7:00p.m. at the Church) together as we study together Chapter 12 – “The Art of Caring for Your Home” –**tomorrow Tuesday, April 13th**.

With love and prayers and gratitude filling my heart for you all,

Christyn