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

**By Lisa Hughes -Winter/Spring 2021**

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

Tuesday, March 9th -Chapter 11– *“The Art of Pursuing Purity”*

*“…many women don’t see the need to focus on their own purity. They may acknowledge there are times when the battle for purity is more pronounced and there are times when it’s barely a blip on the radar screen. They believe purity---especially sexual purity of the body, mind, and heart---is something men struggle with, and that its not such a big deal for women. But apparently God doesn’t think like that. For God included* ***purity*** *in His list of priorities in Titus 2:3-5.” p.160*

**T** hink about it! Purity is an absolute quality. For something to be pure, it has to be 100% pure, or it’s defiled.

**H** ow then can we be pure and free from sin and its defilements when we live in a world steeped in immorality?

**E** ager to find out how? Let’s learn together why God desires us to make our physical and moral purity a *priority*.

**A** ttaining *purity is essential* for *every believer* regardless of our age, our relationship status or season in life**.** p.160

**R** ejecting the world’s seducing influences of impurity, we can embrace the Word’s sanctifying influences of purity.

**T** he Spirit of God through the Word of God teaches us to fear Him, obey Him, and to walk in ***all***purity before Him.

**O** ur pursuit of physical and moral purity begins in our hearts. Impure thoughts often lead to impure deeds. p.162

**F** or we must remember to guard our hearts “with all diligence/persistence” if we are to remain pure.(Pro.4:23)

**P** urposely cleansing our hearts daily through confession and repentance, we can flee from ungodly temptations.

**U** ntil you and I prayerfully wash ourselves daily with the pure water of God’s Word, then our conduct will be pure.

**R** emember, to take every opportunity to examine your heart and life for anything that may keep you from purity.

**S** ince not one of us is free from sin, we need to ***ask*** the Holy Spirit of God who dwells in us to restrain our flesh.

**U**  ltimately, if you are truly born again, you have the grace from God to put to death the deeds of the flesh. p.166

**I**  f immorality and impurity are a continual practice in your life, then you will have no assurance or your salvation.

**N** otice too that in Eph.5:3-5 even *minor degrees* of immorality and impurity should not be part of our lives. p.166

**G** od desires us to be pure and free from sin and its defilements. True saving faith is characterized by purity. p.166

**P** urity is purity. Whether you are a man or woman, young or old, married or single, attaining purity is a challenge.

**U** nderstanding that we as women are generally tempted relationally, we need to first consider our thought life.

**R** esolved to glorify God and maintain purity in our thoughts, we need to run from daydreaming and fantasising.

**I**  mpure thoughts and romantic daydreams about other men could lead you down the road to sexual immorality.

**T** here are two other areas of purity that God wants us to prioritize: purity in our speech and purity in our dress.

**Y** ou and I must remember that God intends for *any* and *every woman* who claims to be a follower of Jesus Christ to not only speak modestly but to dress modestly. That’s just how it is—no ifs, ands, or buts about it. p.170

*“As we’ve discovered in this chapter, God desires purity in thought, word, and deed for every woman. Understanding His expectation should motivate us---out of love for Him---to put away fleshly deeds, worldly desires and lustful pride…We are called to purity because we are His children. And as such, we are to put off anything that may decrease our resemblance to our Father.” (Colossians 3:1-10) p.172*

Looking forward to our next morning (9:30 a.m. ”Zoom”) and evening (7:00 p.m. at the Church) study together – Chapter 11 –“The Art of Pursuing Purity” tomorrow Tuesday, March 9th.

**Ladies, someday we will be perfectly like our Saviour! May the reality that we will someday see Him face to face motivate us to purify our hearts and minds now and to live pure lives because HE IS PURE! (1 John 3:2-3)**

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