



Cornerstone Bible Church
2nd Annual Ladies' Conference
Featuring Susan Hunt

Session 1: The True Woman

1. True means: actual, authentic, consistent with the facts, the reality lying at the base of an appearance

- The true woman is a true reflection of redeemed womanhood
- Her life is consistent with the facts of womanhood revealed in God's Word
- The true woman is a redemptive concept
Must see it as one part of redemption story that begins before the beginning

2. Before the Beginning – Ephesians 1

God of Promise: God's very existence is covenantal: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit live in unceasing devotion to each other, reaching outward beyond the Godhead to create a community of creatures serving as a giant analogy of the Godhead's relationship. Created in the image of the Triune God, we are by nature outgoing, interdependent relationship establishers, finding ourselves in the other and not just in ourselves. Unlike the persons of the Trinity, we at one time did not exist. But when God did decide to create, his decree was not that of a lonely monarch, but of a delighted Father, Son, and Holy Spirit establishing a creaturely, finite analogy of their eternal giving and receiving relationship. We were not just created and then *given* a covenant; we were created *as* covenant creatures—partners not in deity, to be sure, but in the drama that was about to unfold in history. Dr. Michael Horton

Creation Design

3. The Beginning

Genesis 1:1, 3: "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth . . . And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light."

Foundational truth: God's Word is our authority

Genesis 1:26-27 Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, in our likeness . . . So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them.

Foundational reality: God's glory is our purpose

Genesis 2:18: The LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him"

(1) God's sovereignty (2) God's character (3) God's creation order (4) God's design

4. Dr. Wayne Grudem, *Evangelical Feminism & Biblical Truth*, p. 45ff

The equality and differences between men and women reflect the equality and differences in the Trinity

Much more is at stake than the meaning of one or two words or one or two verses in the Bible. Much more is at stake even than how we live in our marriages. **Here we are talking about the nature of God Himself.**

In 1 Corinthians 11 Paul writes,

But I want you to understand that the *head* of every man is Christ, the *head* of a wife is her husband, and the *head* of Christ is God. (v. 3)

When did the idea of headship and submission begin? *The idea of headship and submission never began! It has always existed in the eternal nature of God Himself . . .*

We can say then that a relationship of authority and submission between equals, with mutual giving of honor, is the most fundamental and most glorious interpersonal relationship in the universe . . . And **when we begin to dislike the very idea of authority and submission—not the distortions and abuses, but *the very idea*—we are tampering with something very deep. We are beginning to dislike God Himself.**

5. The Hebrew word translated helper in Genesis 2:18 is *ezer*. In the Old Testament this word often refers to God as our Helper.

(Defends) Exodus 18:4 [Moses]. . . said, "My father's God was my helper; he saved me from the sword of Pharaoh."

(Sees and cares for suffering) Psalm 10:14 But you, O God, do see trouble and grief; you consider it to take it in hand. The victim commits himself to you; you are the helper of the fatherless.

(Supports) Psalm 20:2 May he send you help from the sanctuary and grant you support from Zion.

(Protects) Psalm 33:20 We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield.

(Delivers from distress) Psalm 70:5 Yet I am poor and needy; come quickly to me, O God. You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay.

(Rescues) Psalm 72:12-14 For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help. He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death. He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in his sight.

(Comforts) Psalm 86:17 . . . you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

6. The Problem: The Fall

7. The Solution: The Gospel

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel."

Genesis 3:20 Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living.

8. Helper/Life-Giver Hinderer/Life-taker

Exodus 18:4 Defends

Psalm 10:14 Sees, cares for oppressed

Psalm 20:2 Supports

attacks

indifferent, unconcerned for oppressed

weakens

Psalm 33:20	Shields, protects	leaves unprotected
Psalm 70:5	Delivers from distress	causes distress
Psalm 72:12-14	Rescues poor, weak, needy	ignores poor, weak, needy
Psalm 86:17	Comforts	causes discomfort

- Woman’s helper design and life-giving mission can be summarized as **community and compassion**.

9. Genesis 4: The Way of Cain—the Way of the Covenant

The Way Of Cain

⁸ . . . And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. ⁹ Then the LORD said to Cain, “Where is Abel your brother?” He said, “I do not know; am I my brother’s keeper?” . . .

¹⁶ Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

¹⁷ Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. When he built a city, he called the name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch . . .

The Way of the Covenant

10. Examples: Exodus 1; Luke 8:1-3, Matthew 27:55, Mark 16

11. The True and the New

The True Woman’s Authority: God’s Word
The New Woman’s Authority: Her word

The True Woman’s Purpose: God’s glory
The New Woman’s Purpose: Her happiness

12. Jesus’ Promise

John 14:14-18 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

Reflection

1. What are your reactions to your creation design and redemptive calling?
2. Contrast this with the cultural perspective of womanhood?
3. Look at the Helper/Life-Giver – Hinderer/Life-Taker chart (#10). What are some examples of ways women can be life-givers or life-takers in the home and church?

Session 2: Biblical Womanhood—Generation to Generation

Plants & Pillars

Psalm 144

11 Deliver me and rescue me from the hands of foreigners whose mouths are full of lies, whose right hands are deceitful.

12 **Then** our sons in their youth will be like well-nurtured plants, and our daughters will be like pillars carved to adorn a palace.

Sons: well-nurtured plants . . .

Genesis 1:28 And God blessed them. And God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply

Psalm 1 Blessed is the man who walks not in the counsel of the wicked . . . his delight is in the law of the LORD . . . He is like a tree planted by streams of water that yields its fruit in its season .

Q. What kind of fruit does a godly man produce?

Isaiah 5—a parable of a vineyard.

My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

²He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines . . . and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.

⁷For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel . . . and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry! Isaiah 5:1-7

Q. How does someone produce justice and righteousness?

Isaiah 32:15-16 [When] the Spirit is poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field . . . Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness abide in the fruitful field.

Galatians 5:22-23 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

John 15:1, 4-5 I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser . . . Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.

Daughters: pillars . . .

Genesis 19:15-26 As morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying . . . “Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley . . . Then the LORD rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the LORD out of heaven . . . But Lot’s wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.

Luke 17:28-33 Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot—they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all—so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed . . . Remember Lot’s wife. Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it.

Psalm 144:12: The word translated “pillar” in this verse is a word that refers to a functional, supportive, often beautifully carved pillar. It is sometimes refers to a corner, connecting pillar. It gives stability to a structure.



Proverbs 31

1. Lemuel's mother taught him 4 important truths:

#1 His identity, vv. 1 & 4

But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 1 Peter 2:9

#2 His struggle with sin, vv. 2-4

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus . . . Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted. In your struggle against sin you have not yet resisted to the point of shedding your blood. Hebrews 12:1-4

#3 His calling, vv. 8-9

To assume the responsibility of headship.

To fulfill the cultural mandate.

And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." Genesis 1:28

To rule in a way that reflects the character of the King.

He has showed you, O man, what is good. And what does the LORD require of you? To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8 NIV

#4 His need for a helper, vv. 10-31

Proverbs 31 shows us our sin and our need for a Savior.

Proverbs 31 points us to Jesus, our Heavenly Bridegroom, a King of justice, mercy and humility . . .

Jesus satisfied God's justice to save us.

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 5:1

Jesus loved mercy enough to save us.

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. Titus 3:4-7

Jesus humbled Himself to save us.

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the

form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Philippians 2:5-8

Session 3: Women's Ministry in the Local Church

Often women's ministries are personality-driven or event-driven.
Our goal: A Word-driven women's ministry that glorifies God.

*If we lack interest in the church we lack what for Jesus was a consuming passion.
Jesus loved the Church and gave himself for it (Eph. 5:25).
Dr. Edmund Clowney, *Living in Christ's Church**

Biblical Apologetic for Women's Ministry

- (1) 1 Timothy 2:9-15 Ecclesiastical submission
- (2) 1 Timothy 3:11 Compassion
- (3) 1 Timothy 5:1-16 Community
- (4) Titus 2:3-5 Discipleship
- (5) 2 Timothy 3:1-9, 14-16 Scripture

Gender Specific Discipleship

Even when I am old and gray, do not forsake me, O God, till I declare your power to the next generation, your might to all who are to come. Psalm 71:18

We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done. He decreed statutes for Jacob and established the law in Israel, which he commanded our forefathers to teach their children, so the next generation would know them, even the children yet to be born, and they in turn would tell their children. Then they would put their trust in God and would not forget his deeds but would keep his commands. Psalm 78:4-7

Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20


Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. Then they can train the younger women . . . Titus 2:3-5

7 principles for discipleship in Titus 2

(1) v. 1: ecclesiastical authority and responsibility

(2) v. 1: teach sound doctrine

John Stott: "Christian doctrine is healthy in the same way as the human body is healthy. For Christian doctrine resembles the human body. **It is a coordinated system consisting of different parts which relate to one another**



and together constitute a harmonious whole. If therefore our theology is maimed (with bits missing) or diseased (with bits distorted), it is not `sound' or `healthy'".⁴

(3) v. 2-10: the communion of the saints

John 17:22-23 The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me.

Westminster Confession of Faith—Of the Communion of the Saints

All saints, that are united to Jesus Christ their Head, by His Spirit, and by faith, have fellowship with Him in His grace, sufferings, death, resurrection, and glory: and, being united to one another in love, they have communion in each other's gifts and graces, and are obliged to the performance of such duties, public and private, as do conduce to their mutual good, both in the inward and outward man.

(4) vv. 2-10: the gospel has a redemptive, transforming influence in lives of believers

(5) vv. 5-10: the gospel has a redemptive, transforming influence on culture

(6) vv. 11-13: the gospel is the motivation

(7) vv. 14-15 the gospel is the power

Reflection

1. How has another woman been a life-giver to you?
2. What is your response to the Titus 2 mandate?
3. How is your church equipping women for this calling?
4. How are you having a Titus 2 ministry in the lives of other women?
5. What are some possible applications for the women's ministry in your church?