

I. Introduction.

II. Why is it important for us to address the place of women in the home and in the church?

- A. It is easy for women to be confused in this day and age.
 - 1. Our culture has undergone a massive change in the past generation.
 - 2. Many evangelical churches have followed culture in denying any difference between the roles of men and women in the home and church (egalitarianism).
 - 3. Christian women need to have a biblical understanding of their unique identity.
- B. Christian women are under intense pressure from the world: feminism and sexualization. They need a different vision of womanhood.
- C. Christian women need to be discipled as women.
 - 1. Men and women face different kinds of temptations. I Ti. 2:9-10,14-15 5:11-14
 - 2. Many Christian women need help in dealing with sinful perfectionism. He. 10:14
 - 3. Women need to be equipped in the unique aspects of biblical womanhood.
- D. The health of our churches and families depends upon our having women who are prepared to fulfill biblical mandates for womanhood.
 - 1. We need to avoid the opposite danger of reacting against unbiblical feminism by focusing upon what women cannot do, or being more restrictive than Scripture.
 - 2. The male church leaders are responsible to ensure that women are equipped and encouraged.

III. What are the responsibilities of older women in the church? Titus 2:3

- A. The context of Titus 2:3-5.
- B. Older women should mentor younger women.
 - 1. Relationships among women are important.
 - 2. What should mothers do when their nest empties?
 - 3. The issue is maturity more than age.
- C. Older women who mentor younger women must meet certain qualifications.
 - 1. Reverent/fitting. 2:1 I Tim. 2:10
 - 2. Not gossips/slanderers. I Tim. 3:11 5:13 II Tim. 3:3 Lev. 19:16 Pr. 20:19 10:18-19 16:28 Mark 7:20-23 II Cor. 12:20-21 Ps. 15:1-3
 - 3. Not enslaved to much wine (self indulgent). I Tim. 3:8 Rom. 6:18
 - 4. Teaching what is good. Pr. 31:26 I Tim. 2:11-14

IV. What should younger women be taught? Titus 2:4-5

- A. Women should love their husbands.
 - 1. Overcome the temptation to be self-centered. II Tim. 3:2
 - 2. You are your husband's helper. Gen. 2:18 Pr. 31:11-12,23 *The heart of her husband trusts in her; and he will have no lack of gain. She does him good & not evil all the days of her life.*
 - 3. Build up and encourage your husband. Eph. 4:29 Pr. 31:26
 - 4. Lovingly admonish him when appropriate and necessary. Gal. 6:1 Mt. 18:15
 - 5. Help your husband overcome sexual temptation. I Co. 7:3-5 Heb. 13:4 Pr. 5:18ff

B. Love your children.

1. Motherhood is crucial to the identity of women. I Tim. 2:15 Gen. 3:16
2. Mothers make great sacrifices for their children.
3. Love your children by disciplining them diligently. Pr. 13:24
4. Love your children even if they are wayward.

C. Be sensible. 1:8 2:2 I Tim. 3:2

D. Be pure. I Pe. 3:2 I Ti. 5:22 I Jo. 3:3 Phil. 4:8 II Co. 11:2

1. Chaste in character.
2. Appropriate in dress. I Tim. 2:9-10 Isa. 3:16-24 Pr. 31:30
3. Your beauty is your good works. I Tim. 2:10 I Pe. 3:3-4 Pr. 31:30-31

E. Be workers at home. I Tim. 5:14 Pr. 31:27

1. Be busy, not lazy. I Tim. 5:13 Pr. 31:27
2. Homemaking is a priority and an art.
3. Show hospitality. I Pe. 4:9 Ro. 12:13 Heb. 13:2 I Tim. 3:2
4. Single women have unique opportunities to serve God. I Cor. 7:34

F. Be kind/do good works. Pr. 31:20

G. Be subject to your own husband. Eph. 5:22ff I Pe. 3:1 Col. 3:18 I Tim. 2:11 Pr. 12:4

V. Concluding exhortations.

- A. The goal/outcome of women's discipleship. 2:5b 3:2 Is. 62:5 Pr. 12:4 31:28-29
I Pe. 3:4 I Tim. 2:15
- B. What can be done practically?
- C. Our true beauty is the garment of righteous given to us by Christ. Is. 61:10
Eph. 2:8ff

Discussion questions

1. What particular challenges face Christian women in our day?
2. What unique temptations do women face (as opposed to men)?
3. What responsibility do the (male) church leaders have in encouraging women's ministries?
4. What specifically and practically can older women do to help younger women?
5. What qualifies a woman to be able to mentor other women?
6. What are the most important things for younger women to learn from older women?
7. What does it mean to be a 'worker at home'? 2:5
8. How can a godly woman love and help a less than godly husband?
9. How can single women gain encouragement from this passage?
10. What would you say to a woman who becomes very discouraged when reading (or listening to sermons about) passages like Titus 2 and Proverbs 31?