

Previous Class Reminder: The Men's Role

**DOGBERT: EXECUTIVE
COACH**

YOU NEED TO FOCUS
ON YOUR CAREER OR
YOUR FAMILY. YOU
CAN'T DO BOTH.



Dilbert.com DilbertCartoonist@gmail.com

I DON'T
HAVE A
FAMILY.



ACTUALLY,
YOU'RE
MARRIED
AND YOU
HAVE FOUR
KIDS.

©2013 Scott Adams, Inc. Dist. by Universal Uclick

THAT
SOUNDS
LIKE A
HUGE
HASSLE.



PERHAPS
YOU'VE
ALREADY
CHOSEN.

to devour the poor from the earth,
the needy from among mankind.

15 The leech has two daughters.
"Give! Give!" they cry.

"There are three things that are never
satisfied,

four that never say, "Enough!":

16 the grave,^a the barren womb,
land, which is never satisfied with
water,

and fire, which never says, "Enough!"

17 The eye that mocks a father,
that scorns obedience
will be pecked out by the
valley,
will be eaten by the vulture.

18 There are three things
amazing for me,
four that I do not understand:

19 the way of an eagle in the
sky,
the way of a snake on the
ground,
the way of a ship on the
sea,
and the way of a man who
ignores his Maker.

20 This is the way of an adulteress:
She eats and wipes her
mouth and says, "I've done
nothing."

21 Under three things the
earth trembles,
under four it cannot be
moved:

22 a servant who becomes king,
a fool who is full of food,
a man who sows seed and
does not plant,
and a maidservant who
becomes mistress.

23 An unloved woman who
builds a house,
and a maidservant who
takes her place.

24 Four things on earth are small,
yet they are extremely wise:

25 Ants are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the
summer;

26 coney^b are creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;

27 locusts have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;

28 a lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.

29 There are three things that are stately in
their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:

30 a lion, mighty among beasts,
an ox,
a bull,
and a king,
standing before the Lord.

^a16 Hebrew Sheol ^b26 That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ^c31 Or king secure against revolt
^d1 Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ^e2 Or / the answer to my prayers ^f10 Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

who retreats before nothing;
31 a strutting rooster, a he-goat,
and a king with his army around him.
32 If you have played the fool and exalted
yourself,
or if you have planned evil,
clap your hand over your mouth!
33 For as churning the milk produces butter,
and as twisting the nose produces
blood,
so stirring up anger produces strife."

Sayings of King Lemuel

The sayings of King Lemuel—an oracle
of the Lord.

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

defend the rights of the poor and
needy."

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

10 A wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.

11 Her husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.

12 She brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.

13 She selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.

14 She is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

15 She gets up while it is still dark;
she provides food for her family
and portions for her servant girls.

16 She considers a field and buys it;
out of her earnings she plants a
vineyard.

17 She sets about her work vigorously;
her arms are strong for her tasks.

18 She sees that her trading is profitable,
and her lamp does not go out at night.

19 In her hand she holds the distaff
and grasps the spindle with her
fingers.

20 She opens her arms to the poor
and extends her hands to the needy.
When it snows, she has no fear for her
family, for she has provided for them.

21 She is not afraid of snow for her
family, for she has provided for them.

22 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

23 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

24 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

25 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

26 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

27 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

28 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

29 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

30 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

31 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

32 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

33 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

34 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

35 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

36 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

37 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

38 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

39 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

40 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

41 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

42 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

43 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

44 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

45 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

where he takes his seat among the
elders of the land.

24 She makes linen garments and sells them,
and supplies the merchants with sashes.

25 She is clothed with strength and dignity;
she can laugh at the days to come.

26 She speaks with wisdom,
and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

27 She watches over the affairs of her
household
and does not eat the bread of idleness.

28 Her children arise and call her blessed;
her husband also, and he praises her:

29 "Many women do noble things,
but you surpass them all."

30 Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;
but a woman who fears the Lord is to
be praised.

31 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

32 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

33 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

34 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

35 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

36 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

37 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

38 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

39 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

40 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

41 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

42 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

43 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

44 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

45 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

46 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

47 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

48 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

49 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

50 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

51 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

52 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

53 She is like the ships of the sea,
bringing her food from afar.

Wisdom Is Meaningless

12], the Teacher, was king over Israel in
Jerusalem. 13] devoted myself to study and to
explore by wisdom all that is done under heav-
en. What a heavy burden God has laid on men!
14] have seen all the things that are done un-
der the sun; all of them are meaningless, a
chasing after the wind.

15 What is twisted cannot be straightened;
what is lacking cannot be counted.

16 I thought to myself, "Look, I have grown
and increased in wisdom more than anyone
before me, yet I have not seen wisdom
bring me profit, nor has she
increased my wages. For I have
been wise as never before, yet I
have not seen wisdom bring me
profit, nor has she increased my
wages. For I have been wise as
never before, yet I have not seen
wisdom bring me profit, nor has
she increased my wages."

¹1 Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

15^aThe eye that mocks a father,
that scorns obedience to a mother,
will be pecked out by the ravens of the valley,
and will be eaten by the vultures.

16^aThere are three things that are too amazing for me,
four that I do not understand:
17^athe way of an eagle in the sky,
the way of a snake on a rock,
the way of a ship on the high seas,
and the way of a man with a maiden.

18^aThis is the way of an adulteress:
She eats and wipes her mouth
and says, 'I've done nothing wrong.'

19^aUnder three things the earth trembles,
under four it cannot bear up:
20^aa servant who becomes king,
a fool who is full of food,
21^aan unloved woman who is married,
and a maidservant who displaces her mistress.

22^aFour things on earth are small,
yet they are extremely wise:
23^aants are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the summer;
24^aconey^b are creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;
25^alocusts have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;
26^aa lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.

27^aThere are three things that are stately in their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:
28^aa lion, mighty among beasts,

^a16 Hebrew Sheol ^b26 That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ^c31 Or king secure against revolt
^d1 Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ^e2 Or / the answer to my prayers ^f10 Verses 10-31 are an acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

31 The sayings of King Lemuel—
whom his mother taught him:
1^aO my son, O son of my womb,
O son of my vows,
2^ado not spend your strength on women,
your vigor on those who ruin kings.
3^aIt is not for kings, O Lemuel—
not for kings to drink wine,
not for rulers to crave beer,
4^alest they drink and forget what the law decrees,
and deprive all the oppressed of their rights.
5^aGive beer to those who are perishing,
wine to those who are in anguish;
6^alet them drink and forget their poverty
and remember their misery no more.
7^aSpeak up for those who cannot speak for themselves,
for the rights of all who are destitute.
8^aSpeak up and judge fairly;
defend the rights of the poor and needy."

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

9^aA wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.
10^aHer husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.
11^aShe brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.
12^aShe selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.
13^aShe is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

14^aWhen it snows, she has no fear for her household;
for all of them are clothed in scarlet.
15^aShe makes coverings for her bed;
she is clothed in fine linen and purple.
16^aHer husband is respected at the city gate,

17^awhere he takes his seat among the elders of the land.
18^aCharm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;
but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.
19^aGive her the reward she has earned,
and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

Ecclesiastes

Everything Is Meaningless

1 The words of the Teacher,^a son of David,
king in Jerusalem:
2^a"Meaningless! Meaningless!"
says the Teacher.
"Utterly meaningless!
Everything is meaningless."
3^aWhat does man gain from all his labor
at which he toils under the sun?
4^aGenerations come and generations go,
but the earth remains forever.
5^aThe sun rises and the sun sets,
and hurries back to where it rises.
6^aThe wind blows to the south
and turns to the north;
round and round it goes,
ever returning on its course.
7^aAll streams flow into the sea,
yet the sea is never full.
To the place the streams come from,
there they return again.
8^aAll things are wearisome,
more than one can say.
The eye never has enough of seeing,

nor the ear its fill of hearing.
9^aWhat has been will be again,
what has been done will be done again;
there is nothing new under the sun.
10^aIs there anything of which one can say,
"Look! This is something new?"
It was here already, long ago;
it was here before our time.
11^aThere is no remembrance of men of old,
and even those who are yet to come
will not be remembered
by those who follow.

Wisdom Is Meaningless

12^athe Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem.
13^aI devoted myself to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under heaven.
What a heavy burden God has laid on men!
14^aI have seen all the things that are done under the sun;
all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.
15^aWhat is twisted cannot be straightened;
what is lacking cannot be counted.

^a1 Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Women in modern society

Women in modern religion

Women in the Bible

Women our congregation

15^aThe eye that mocks a father,
that scorns obedience to a mother,
will be pecked out by the ravens of the valley,
and will be eaten by the vultures.

16^aThere are three things that are too amazing for me,
four that I do not understand:
17^athe way of an eagle in the sky,
the way of a snake on a rock,
the way of a ship on the high seas,
and the way of a man with a maiden.

18^aThis is the way of an adulteress:
She eats and wipes her mouth
and says, 'I've done nothing wrong.'

19^aUnder three things the earth trembles,
under four it cannot bear up:
20^aa servant who becomes king,
a fool who is full of food,
21^aan unloved woman who is married,
and a maidservant who displaces her mistress.

22^aFour things on earth are small,
yet they are extremely wise:
23^aants are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the summer;
24^aconey^b are creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;
25^alocusts have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;
26^aa lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.

27^aThere are three things that are stately in their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:
28^alion, mighty among beasts,

^a16 Hebrew Sheol ^a26 That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ^a31 Or king secure against revolt
^a1 Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ^a2 Or / the answer to my prayers ^a10 Verses 10-31 are an acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

31 The sayings of King Lemuel—
whom his mother taught him:
1^aO my son, O son of my womb,
O son of my vows,
2^ado not spend your strength on women,
for rulers to crave beer,
lest they drink and forget what the law decrees.
3^aDo not drink wine to those who are in anguish;
lest them drink and forget their poverty
and remember their misery no more.
4^aSpeak up for the defense of the poor,
for the rights of the needy.
5^aSpeak up and defend the rights of the poor and needy.

6^aA wife of noble character who can trust in the Lord—
she is worth far more than rubies.
7^aHer husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.
8^aShe brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.
9^aShe selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.
10^aShe is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

^a1 Or king secure against revolt
^a1 Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ^a2 Or / the answer to my prayers ^a10 Verses 10-31 are an acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

When it snows, she has no fear for her household;
for all of them are clothed in scarlet.
She makes coverings for her bed;
she is clothed in fine linen and purple.
She is respected at the city gate.
When she gets up while it is still dark,
she provides food for her family.

11^aWhen she gets up while it is still dark,
she provides food for her family.
12^aShe is respected at the city gate.
13^aWhen she gets up while it is still dark,
she provides food for her family.

14^aWhen she gets up while it is still dark,
she provides food for her family.
15^aWhen she gets up while it is still dark,
she provides food for her family.

^a1 Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

where he takes his seat among the elders of the land.
but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.
Give her the reward she has earned,
and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

16^aWhen she gets up while it is still dark,
she provides food for her family.
17^aWhen she gets up while it is still dark,
she provides food for her family.

18^aWhen she gets up while it is still dark,
she provides food for her family.
19^aWhen she gets up while it is still dark,
she provides food for her family.

^a1 Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

Ecclesiastes

10^aIs there anything of which one can say,
"Look! This is something new?"
It was here already, long ago;
it was here before our time.
11^aThere is no remembrance of men of old,
and even those who are yet to come
will not be remembered
by those who follow.

12^athe Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem.
13^adevoted myself to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under heaven.
What a heavy burden God has laid on men!
14^aI have seen all the things that are done under the sun;
all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.
15^aWhat is twisted cannot be straightened;
what is lacking cannot be counted.
16^aI thought to myself, "Look, I have grown
and increased in wisdom more than anyone

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Women in modern society

Some of the
Fortune 500 Companies
With Women CEO's

- IBM
- Ebay
- Hewlett Packard
- WellPoint
- PepsiCo
- Xerox
- Du Pont
- Duke Energy

- Kraft Foods
- Sam's Club
- Rite Aid
- Morgan Stanley
- Sara Lee
- Lockheed Martin
- General Dynamics
- Yahoo!

Unimaginable 50 years ago!

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Women in modern society

The share of married-couple families with children where both parents worked was 59.0 percent. - US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2012

61% of preschool children in the US were in a regular child care arrangement in 2011. - US Census

Half of grade school children were in a child care arrangement in addition to public school in 2011. - US Census

What are the implications?

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Women in modern society

For the first time, American women have passed men in gaining advanced college degrees as well as bachelor's degrees, part of a trend that is helping redefine who goes off to work and who stays home with the kids. - CBS news, April 2011

Changing the traditional roles in the home

What are the implications?

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Women in modern society

Pew Research national poll, 2013: What would be your ideal working arrangement?

All mothers:

- 50% would prefer part-time work
- 11% would prefer not to work at all

Mothers in households with >\$50k income

- Only 25% would prefer full time work

All fathers:

- 75% would prefer full-time work

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Women in modern religion

One in 10 U.S. churches employs a woman as senior pastor, double the percentage from a decade ago, according to a new survey by the Barna Group. - USA Today, 9/17/2009

15*The
"Giv
"Then
four
16the gr
land
and
17*The eye that mocks a father,
that scorns obedience to a mother,
will be pecked out by the ravens of the
valley,
and will be eaten by the vultures.
18*There are three things that are too
amazing for me,
four that I do not understand:
19the way of an eagle in the sky,
the way of a snail on the ground,
the way of a ship on the sea,
and the way of a man.
20*This is the way of a noble woman:
She eats and drinks with moderation,
and says, "I've done good."
21*Under three things a man will be
under four it can be done again;
22a servant who becomes a fool,
a fool who is full of wisdom,
23an unloved woman who becomes
a mistress,
and a maidservant who displaces her
mistress.
24*Four things on earth are small,
yet they are extremely wise:
25ants are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the
summer;
26coney^b are creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;
27locusts have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;
28a lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.
29*There are three things that are stately in
their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:
30a lion, mighty among beasts,

^a16 Hebrew Sheol ^b26 That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ^c31 Or king secure against revolt
^d1 Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ^e2 Or / the answer to my prayers ^f10 Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

31 The sayings of King Lemuel—
cle^a his mother taught him:

4*It is not for kings, O Lemuel—
to drink wine,
nor for kings to be
drunk;
for the rights of all who are destitute.

9*Speak up and judge fairly;
defend the rights of the poor and
the needy."

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

10/A wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.
11Her husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.
12She brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.
13She selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.
14She is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

15She gets up while it is still dark;
she provides food for her family

21When it snows, she has no fear for her
household;

31*What does man gain from all his labor
at which he toils under the sun?
32*Generations come and generations go,
but the earth remains forever.
33The sun rises and the sun sets,
and hurries back to where it rises.
34The wind blows to the south
and turns to the north;
round and round it goes,
ever returning on its course.
35All streams flow into the sea,
yet the sea is never full.
To the place the streams come from,
there they return again.
36*All things are wearisome,
more than one can say.
The eye never has enough of seeing,

^a1 Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

where he takes his seat among the
elders of the land.

31*Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;
but a woman who fears the Lord is to
be praised.
32Give her the reward she has earned,
and let her works bring her praise at
the city gate.

11There is no remembrance of men of old,
and even those who are yet to come
will not be remembered
by those who follow.

Wisdom Is Meaningless

12], the Teacher, was king over Israel in
Jerusalem. 13] devoted myself to study and to
explore by wisdom all that is done under heav-
en. What a heavy burden God has laid on men!
14] have seen all the things that are done un-
der the sun; all of them are meaningless, a
chasing after the wind.
15*What is twisted cannot be straightened;
what is lacking cannot be counted.
16] thought to myself, "Look, I have grown
and increased in wisdom more than anyone

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Women in modern religion

One in 10 U.S. churches employs a woman as senior pastor, double the percentage from a decade ago, according to a new survey by the Barna Group. - USA Today, 9/17/2009

Are men failing to lead? And women stepping into the void?

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Women in modern religion

One in 10 U.S. churches employs a woman as senior pastor, double the percentage from a decade ago, according to a new survey by the Barna Group. - USA Today, 9/17/2009

Are men failing to lead? And women stepping into the void?

“Are churches 'too feminized' for men?” -
United Methodist Church website

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Feminization of modern religion

Why Men Hate Going to Church by David Murrow (2006)

It's Sunday morning. Where are all the men? Golfing? Playing softball? Watching the tube? Mowing the lawn? Sleeping? One place you won't find them is in church. Less than 40 percent of adults in most churches are men, and 20 to 25 percent of married churchgoing women attend without their husbands.

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Women in modern religion

On May 4, 1956, in Minneapolis, the General Conference of the Methodist Church approved full clergy rights for women. Half a century later, the fruits of that action are the nearly 12,000 United Methodist clergy women who serve the church at every level, from bishops to local pastors.

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Women in modern religion

While both men and women are gifted for service in the church, the office of pastor is limited to men as qualified by Scripture. - Baptist Faith and Message (2000)

15*The
"Giv
"Then
four
16the gra
land
and
17*The eye that mocks a father,
that scorns obedience to a mother,
will be pecked out by the ravens of the
valley,
and will be eaten by the vultures.
18*There are three things that are too
amazing for me,
four that I do not understand:
19the way of an eagle in the sky,
the way of a snail on the land,
the way of a ship on the sea,
and the way of a man here.
20*This is the way of a foolish woman:
She eats and drinks and says, "I've done
nothing."
21*Under three things the Lord is angry,
under four he is vexed:
22a servant who becomes a fool,
a fool who is full of himself,
23an unloved woman who is married,
and a maidservant who displaces her
mistress.
24*Four things on earth are small,
yet they are extremely wise:
25ants are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the
summer;
26coney^b are creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;
27locusts have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;
28a lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.
29*There are three things that are stately in
their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:
30a lion, mighty among beasts,

31 The sayings of King Lemuel—
cle^a his mother taught him:
1*When it snows, she has no fear for her
household;
2*Charms are deceptive, and beauty is
vanishing;
but a woman who fears the Lord is to
be praised.
3*Give her the reward she has earned,
and let her works bring her praise at
the city gate.
4*It is not for kings, O Lemuel—
do not let your vigor be poured out
for wine.
5*It is not for kings to drink wine,
nor for them to desire wine,
lest they drink and forget,
lest they come to poverty and
suffer.

9*Speak up and judge fairly;
defend the rights of the poor and
the needy.

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

10/A wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.
11Her husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.
12She brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.
13She selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.
14She is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

Everything is meaningless."
11What does man gain from all his labor
at which he toils under the sun?
12Generations come and generations go,
but the earth remains forever.
13The sun rises and the sun sets,
and hurries back to where it rises.
14The wind blows to the south
and turns to the north;
round and round it goes,
ever returning on its course.
15All streams flow into the sea,
yet the sea is never full.
To the place the streams come from,
there they return again.
16All things are wearisome,
more than one can say.
The eye never has enough of seeing,

11There is no remembrance of men of old,
and even those who are yet to come
will not be remembered
by those who follow.
Wisdom Is Meaningless
12J, the Teacher, was king over Israel in
Jerusalem. 13J devoted myself to study and to
explore by wisdom all that is done under heav-
en. What a heavy burden God has laid on men!
14I have seen all the things that are done un-
der the sun; all of them are meaningless, a
chasing after the wind.
15What is twisted cannot be straightened;
what is lacking cannot be counted.
16I thought to myself, "Look, I have grown
and increased in wisdom more than anyone

^a16 Hebrew Sheol ^b26 That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ^c31 Or king secure against revolt
^d1 Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ^e2 Or / the answer to my prayers ^f10 Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Women in modern religion

On the possibility of the Catholic Church ordaining women priests, Pope Francis said, “the Church has spoken and said, ‘no,’” and the form in which Blessed John Paul II declared that was “a definitive formula.”

15*The
"Giv
"Then
four
16the gr
land
and
17*The eye that mocks a father,
that scorns obedience to a mother,
will be pecked out by the ravens of the
valley,
and will be eaten by the vultures.
18*There are three things that are too
amazing for me,
four that I do not understand:
19the way of an eagle
the way of a snake
the way of a ship
and the way of a
20*This is the way of
She eats and wip
and says, "I've d
21*Under three thing
under four it can
22a servant who beco
a fool who is full
23an unloved woman
and a maidservan
mistress.
24*Four things on earth are simi
yet they are extremely wise:
25Ants are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the
summer;
26coney^b are creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;
27locusts have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;
28a lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.
29*There are three things that are stately in
their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:
30a lion, mighty among beasts,

^a16 Hebrew Sheol ^b26 That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ^c31 Or king secure against revolt
^d1 Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ^e2 Or / the answer to my prayers ^f10 Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

31 The sayings of King Lemuel—
cle^a his mother taught him:

4*It is not for kings, O Lemuel—
to drink wine,
nor for kings to be
drunk;
because they will
forget what they
have done,
and will not
remember their
deeds.

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

¹⁰A wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.
¹¹Her husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.
¹²She brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.
¹³She selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.
¹⁴She is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

15She gets up while it is still dark;
she provides food for her family

21When it snows, she has no fear for her
household;

4Generations come and generations go,
but the earth remains forever.
5The sun rises and the sun sets,
and hurries back to where it rises.
6The wind blows to the south
and turns to the north;
round and round it goes,
ever returning on its course.
7All streams flow into the sea,
yet the sea is never full.
To the place the streams come from,
there they return again.
8All things are wearisome,
more than one can say.
The eye never has enough of seeing,

^a1 Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

where he takes his seat among the
elders of the land.

4Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;
but a woman who fears the Lord is to
be praised.
5Give her the reward she has earned,
and let her works bring her praise at
the city gate.

Wisdom Is Meaningless

¹²J, the Teacher, was king over Israel in
Jerusalem. ¹³J devoted myself to study and to
explore by wisdom all that is done under heav-
en. What a heavy burden God has laid on men!
¹⁴J have seen all the things that are done un-
der the sun; all of them are meaningless, a
chasing after the wind.
¹⁵What is twisted cannot be straightened;
what is lacking cannot be counted.
¹⁶J thought to myself, "Look, I have grown
and increased in wisdom more than anyone

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Society influencing Bible translations

Gender-neutral Bible translations

- New Revised Standard Version
- Today's New International Version (2002)
- New International Version (2011)

15^aThe
"Giv
"Then
four
16^athe gra
land
and
17^aThe eye that mocks a father,
that scorns obedience to a mother,
will be pecked out by the ravens of the
valley,
and will be eaten by the vulture.
18^aThere are three things that are amazing for me,
four that I do not understand:
19^athe way of an eagle in flight,
the way of a hawk in flight,
the way of a ship in flight,
and the way of a man in flight.
20^aThis is the way of a fool:
She eats and vomits,
and says, "I've
21^aUnder three things the Lord is angry,
under four He is vexed:
22^aa servant who beats his master,
a fool who is full of himself,
23^aan unloved woman who
and a maidservant who
mistress.
24^aFour things on earth are exasperating,
yet they are exasperating:
25^aAnts are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the
summer;
26^aconey^b are creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;
27^alocusts have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;
28^aa lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.
29^aThere are three things that are stately in
their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:
30^aa lion, mighty among beasts,

31

The sayings of King Lemuel—
whom his mother taught him:

4^aIt is not for kings, O Lemuel—
to drink wine,
nor for rulers to drink strong drink,
lest they forget the law,
and despise the word of the Lord.

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

10^aA wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.
11^aHer husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.
12^aShe brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.
13^aShe selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.
14^aShe is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

^a16 Hebrew Sheol ^b26 That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ^c31 Or king secure against revolt
^d1 Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ^e2 Or / the answer to my prayers ^f10 Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

21^aWhen it snows, she has no fear for her
household;
22^aWhen she is clothed in scarlet,
her garments are like purple.

23^aCharm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;
but a woman who fears the Lord is to
be praised.

24^aShe has earned
her wealth,
and her works bring her praise at
the gate.

but the earth remains forever.
15^aThe sun rises and the sun sets,
and hurries back to where it rises.
16^aThe wind blows to the south
and turns to the north;
round and round it goes,
ever returning on its course.
17^aAll streams flow into the sea,
yet the sea is never full.
To the place the streams come from,
there they return again.
18^aAll things are wearisome,
more than one can say.
The eye never has enough of seeing,

Wisdom Is Meaningless

12^athe Teacher, was king over Israel in
Jerusalem. 13^aI devoted myself to study and to
explore by wisdom all that is done under heav-
en. What a heavy burden God has laid on men!
14^aI have seen all the things that are done un-
der the sun; all of them are meaningless, a
chasing after the wind.
15^aWhat is twisted cannot be straightened;
what is lacking cannot be counted.
16^aI thought to myself, "Look, I have grown
and increased in wisdom more than anyone

^a1 Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Society influencing Bible translations

(NIV 1984) [2Pe 1:21](#) For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but **men spoke from God** as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

(NRSV) [2 Pet 1:21](#) because no prophecy ever came by human will, but **men and women** moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

(NIV 2011) [2Pe 1:21](#) For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, **but prophets, though human**, spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

All the older translations (KJV, ASV, NASV, RSV) use “men”

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

So we see that the modern world is seeking to influence us with its message on the woman's role.

What does the Bible say about the subject?

¹⁶ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Women's Role in the Church

Scriptures reserve certain roles for men only.

15^{The} eye that mocks a father,
that scorns obedience to a mother,
will be pecked out by the ravens of the valley,
and will be eaten by the vultures.

16^{There} are three things that are too amazing for me,
four that I do not understand:

17^{the way} of an eagle soaring above the mountain,
the way of a hawk soaring above the cliff,
the way of a lion prowling in the forest,
and the way of a man who does his duty.

18^{This} is the way of an adulteress:
She eats and wipes her mouth
and says, 'I've done nothing wrong.'

19^{Under} three things the earth trembles,
under four it cannot bear up:

20^a servant who becomes king,
a fool who is full of food,
an unloved woman who is married,
and a maidservant who displaces her mistress.

21^{Four} things on earth are small,
yet they are extremely wise:

22^{Ants} are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the summer;

23^{coney}s are creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;
locusts have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;
a lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.

24^{There} are three things that are stately in their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:

25^a lion, mighty among beasts,

31 The sayings of King Lemuel—
whom his mother taught him:

1^{It} is not for kings,
O Lemuel—
to drink wine,
nor for kings to drink wine,
lest they drink and forget,
lest they drink and be ignorant,<

and deprive all the oppressed of their rights.
2^{Give} beer to those who are perishing,
wine to those who are in anguish;
3^{let} them drink and forget their poverty
and remember their misery no more.

4^{Speak} up for those who cannot speak for themselves,
for the rights of all who are destitute.

5^{Speak} up and judge fairly;
defend the rights of the poor and needy."

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

6^A wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.

7^{Her} husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.

8^{She} brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.

9^{She} selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.

10^{She} is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

¹⁶ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

1^{She} gets up while it is still dark;
she provides food for her family

2^{When} it snows, she has no fear for her household;

Everything Is Meaningless

1^{The} words of the Teacher,² son of David,
king in Jerusalem:

2^{Meaningless!} Meaningless!"
says the Teacher.
3^{Utterly} meaningless!
Everything is meaningless."

4^{What} does man gain from all his labor
at which he toils under the sun?

5^{Generations} come and generations go,
but the earth remains forever.

6^{The} sun rises and the sun sets,
and hurries back to where it rises.

7^{The} wind blows to the south
and turns to the north;
round and round it goes,
ever returning on its course.

8^{All} streams flow into the sea,
yet the sea is never full.
To the place the streams come from,
there they return again.

9^{All} things are wearisome,
more than one can say.
The eye never has enough of seeing,

¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

where he takes his seat among the
elders of the land.

10^{Charm} is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;
but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.
11^{Let} her the reward she has earned,
and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.

nor the ear its fill of hearing.

9^{What} has been will be again,
what has been done will be done again;
there is nothing new under the sun.

10^{Is} there anything of which one can say,
"Look! This is something new?"
It was here already, long ago;
it was here before our time.

11^{There} is no remembrance of men of old,
and even those who are yet to come
will not be remembered
by those who follow.

Wisdom Is Meaningless

12^I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. 13^I devoted myself to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under heaven. What a heavy burden God has laid on men! 14^I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

15^{What} is twisted cannot be straightened;
what is lacking cannot be counted.

16^I thought to myself, "Look, I have grown and increased in wisdom more than anyone

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Women's Role in the Church

Scriptures reserve certain roles for men only.

Tit 1:6 An elder must be blameless, the husband of but one wife, a man whose children believe and are not open to the charge of being wild and disobedient.

¹⁶ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Women's Role in the Church

Scriptures reserve certain roles for men only.

1Ti 3:8 Deacons, likewise, are to be **men** worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain.

1Ti 3:12 A deacon must be the **husband** of but one wife and must manage his children and his household well.

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Women's Role in the Church

Scriptures reserve certain roles for men only.

1Ti 2:12 I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she must be silent.

¹⁶ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

So then, what is the biblical
role for Christian women?

And what is the message for
the women in our
congregation?

15^aThe eye that mocks a father,
that scorns obedience to a mother,
will be pecked out by the ravens of the
valley,
and will be eaten by the vultures.
16^aThere are three things that are too
amazing for me,
four that I do not understand:
17^athe way of an eagle in the sky,
the way of a snake on a rock,
the way of a ship on the high seas,
and the way of a man with a maiden.
18^aThis is the way of an adulteress:
She eats and wipes her mouth
and says, 'I've done nothing wrong.'
19^aUnder three things the earth trembles,
under four it cannot bear up:
20^aa servant who becomes king,
a fool who is full of food,
21^aan unloved woman who is married,
and a maidservant who displaces her
mistress.
22^aFour things on earth are small,
yet they are extremely wise:
23^aAnts are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the
summer;
24^aconey^b are creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;
25^alocusts have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;
26^aa lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.
27^aThere are three things that are stately in
their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:
28^aa lion, mighty among beasts,

^a16 Hebrew Sheol ^b26 That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ^c31 Or king secure against revolt
^d1 Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ^e2 Or / the answer to my prayers ^f10 Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

31 The sayings of King Lemuel—
as his mother taught him:

1^aWhen it snows, she has no fear for her
household;
2^aShe gets up while it is still dark;
she provides food for her family
where he takes his seat among the
elders of the land.
3^aCharm is deceptive, and beauty
does not profit;
but a woman who fears the Lord is to
be praised.
4^aShe has earned for herself
the reward she has earned,
and let her works bring her praise at
the city gate.
5^aShe is not afraid of winter;
she is not afraid of heat.
6^aShe opens her mouth with wisdom,
and her tongue is full of kindness.
7^aShe is not afraid of the snow for her
household;
8^ashe gets up while it is still dark;
she provides food for her family
where he takes his seat among the
elders of the land.
9^aCharm is deceptive, and beauty
does not profit;
but a woman who fears the Lord is to
be praised.
10^aShe has earned for herself
the reward she has earned,
and let her works bring her praise at
the city gate.
11^aShe is not afraid of winter;
she is not afraid of heat.
12^aShe opens her mouth with wisdom,
and her tongue is full of kindness.
13^aShe is not afraid of the snow for her
household;
14^ashe gets up while it is still dark;
she provides food for her family
where he takes his seat among the
elders of the land.
15^aCharm is deceptive, and beauty
does not profit;
but a woman who fears the Lord is to
be praised.
16^aShe has earned for herself
the reward she has earned,
and let her works bring her praise at
the city gate.
17^aShe is not afraid of winter;
she is not afraid of heat.
18^aShe opens her mouth with wisdom,
and her tongue is full of kindness.
19^aShe is not afraid of the snow for her
household;
20^ashe gets up while it is still dark;
she provides food for her family
where he takes his seat among the
elders of the land.
21^aCharm is deceptive, and beauty
does not profit;
but a woman who fears the Lord is to
be praised.
22^aShe has earned for herself
the reward she has earned,
and let her works bring her praise at
the city gate.
23^aShe is not afraid of winter;
she is not afraid of heat.
24^aShe opens her mouth with wisdom,
and her tongue is full of kindness.
25^aShe is not afraid of the snow for her
household;
26^ashe gets up while it is still dark;
she provides food for her family
where he takes his seat among the
elders of the land.
27^aCharm is deceptive, and beauty
does not profit;
but a woman who fears the Lord is to
be praised.
28^aShe has earned for herself
the reward she has earned,
and let her works bring her praise at
the city gate.
29^aShe is not afraid of winter;
she is not afraid of heat.
30^aShe opens her mouth with wisdom,
and her tongue is full of kindness.
31^aShe is not afraid of the snow for her
household;

for the rights of all who are destitute.
9^aSpeak up and judge fairly;
defend the rights of the poor and
needy."

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

10^aA wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.
11^aHer husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.
12^aShe brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.
13^aShe selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.
14^aShe is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

Ecclesiastes

Everything is meaningless.
1^aWhat does man gain from all his labor
at which he toils under the sun?
2^aGenerations come and generations go,
but the earth remains forever.
3^aThe sun rises and the sun sets,
and hurries back to where it rises.
4^aThe wind blows to the south
and turns to the north;
round and round it goes,
ever returning on its course.
5^aAll streams flow into the sea,
yet the sea is never full.
To the place the streams come from,
there they return again.
6^aAll things are wearisome,
more than one can say.
The eye never has enough of seeing,

^a1 Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

nor the ear its fill of hearing,
that has been will be again,
what has been done will be done again;
there is nothing new under the sun.
7^aIs there anything of which one can say,
"Look! This is something new?"
It was here already, long ago;
it was here before our time.
8^aThere is no remembrance of men of old,
and even those who are yet to come
will not be remembered
by those who follow.
9^aWisdom Is Meaningless
10^a12^a1, the Teacher, was king over Israel in
Jerusalem. 13^a1 devoted myself to study and to
explore by wisdom all that is done under heav-
en. What a heavy burden God has laid on men!
14^a1 have seen all the things that are done un-
der the sun; all of them are meaningless, a
chasing after the wind.
15^a15^aWhat is twisted cannot be straightened;
what is lacking cannot be counted.
16^a16^a1 thought to myself, "Look, I have grown
and increased in wisdom more than anyone

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Various situations of women
in our congregation:

Single women, no kids
Single mom
Married, no kids
Married, with kids
Married to non-Christian
Married, empty nest
Widowed

Each situation is unique

15^{The} "Giv
"Then
four
16^{the} gra
land
and
17^{The} eye that mocks a father,
that scorns obedience to a mother,
will be pecked out by the ravens of the
valley,
and will be eaten by the vultures.
18^{There} are three things that are too
amazing for me,
four that I do not understand:
19^{the} way of an eagle in the sky,
the way of a snake on a rock,
the way of a ship on the high seas,
and the way of a man with a maiden.
20^{This} is the way of an adulteress:
She eats and wipes her mouth
and says, 'I've done nothing wrong.'
21^{Under} three things the earth trembles,
under four it cannot bear up:
22^a servant who becomes king,
a fool who is full of food,
23^{an} unloved woman who is married,
and a maidservant who displaces her
mistress.
24^{Four} things on earth are small,
yet they are extremely wise:
25^{Ants} are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the
summer;
26^{coney}s^{are} creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;
27^{locusts} have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;
28^a lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.
29^{There} are three things that are stately in
their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:
30^a lion, mighty among beasts,

¹⁶ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

31 The sayings of King Lemuel—
whom his mother taught him:

1^{When} it snows, she has no fear for her
household;

2^{Charm} is deceptive, and beauty is
vain; but a woman who fears the Lord is to
be praised.
3^{Let} her the reward she has earned,
and let her works bring her praise at
the city gate.

Ecclesiastes

nor the ear its fill of hearing.
9^{What} has been will be again,
what has been done will be done again;
there is nothing new under the sun.
10^{Is} there anything of which one can say,
"Look! This is something new?"
It was here already, long ago;
it was here before our time.
11^{There} is no remembrance of men of old,
and even those who are yet to come
will not be remembered
by those who follow.

Wisdom Is Meaningless

12^I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in
Jerusalem. 13^I devoted myself to study and to
explore by wisdom all that is done under heav-
en. What a heavy burden God has laid on men!
14^I have seen all the things that are done un-
der the sun; all of them are meaningless, a
chasing after the wind.

15^{What} is twisted cannot be straightened;
what is lacking cannot be counted.

16^I thought to myself, "Look, I have grown
and increased in wisdom more than anyone

¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

How does the Bible describe the woman's role?

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

Gen 2:24 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

How does the Bible describe the woman's role?

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

Gen 2:24 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

Woman was designed to be a wife

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

How does the Bible describe the
woman's role?

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

Gen 2:24 For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and they will become one flesh.

Woman was designed to be a wife

Will talk about single women later

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The biblical model woman's role

Pro 31:10 A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies.

Pro 31:11 Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value.

Pro 31:12 She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life.

²⁶coney^b are creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;
²⁷locusts have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;
²⁸a lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.
²⁹There are three things that are stately in
their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:
³⁰a lion, mighty among beasts,

¹⁶ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

¹⁰A wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.
¹¹Her husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.
¹²She brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.
¹³She selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.
¹⁴She is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

and hurries back to winter
⁹The wind blows to the south
and turns to the north;
round and round it goes,
ever returning on its course.
⁷All streams flow into the sea,
yet the sea is never full.
To the place the streams come from,
there they return again.
⁸All things are wearisome,
more than one can say.
The eye never has enough of seeing.

¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

Jerusalem. ¹³ devoted myself to study
explore by wisdom all that is done under heav-
en. What a heavy burden God has laid on men!
¹⁴ I have seen all the things that are done un-
der the sun; all of them are meaningless, a
chasing after the wind.
¹⁵ What is twisted cannot be straightened;
what is lacking cannot be counted.
¹⁶ I thought to myself, "Look, I have grown
and increased in wisdom more than anyone

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The biblical model woman's role

Pro 31:10 A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies.

Pro 31:11 Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value.

Pro 31:12 She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life.

Her husband's helper!

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The biblical model woman's role

Pro 31:10 A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies.

Pro 31:11 Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value.

Pro 31:12 She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life.

Her husband's helper!

Remember, we're talking about married women now

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The biblical model woman's role

Pro 31:13 She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands.

Pro 31:14 She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar.

Pro 31:15 She gets up while it is still dark; she provides food for her family and portions for her servant girls.

Clothing and feeding her family

¹⁶ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The biblical model woman's role

Pro 31:16 She considers a field and buys it; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard.

Pro 31:17 She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks.

Pro 31:18 She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night.

²⁶coney^s are creatures of little power, yet they make their home in the crags;

²⁷locusts have no king, yet they advance together in ranks; ²⁸a lizard can be caught with the hand, yet it is found in kings' palaces.

²⁹There are three things that are stately in their stride, four that move with stately bearing:

³⁰a lion, mighty among beasts,

¹⁰A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies.

¹¹Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value.

¹²She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life.

¹³She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands.

¹⁴She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar.

⁹The wind blows to the south and turns to the north; round and round it goes, ever returning on its course.

⁷All streams flow into the sea, yet the sea is never full. To the place the streams come from, there they return again.

⁸All things are wearisome, more than one can say. The eye never has enough of seeing,

Jerusalem. ¹³ devoted myself to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under heaven. What a heavy burden God has laid on men! ¹⁴ I have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.

¹⁵ What is twisted cannot be straightened; what is lacking cannot be counted.

¹⁶ I thought to myself, "Look, I have grown and increased in wisdom more than anyone

¹⁰ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The biblical model woman's role

Pro 31:16 She considers a field and buys it; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard.

Pro 31:17 She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks.

Pro 31:18 She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night.

Contributing financially

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The biblical model woman's role

Pro 31:16 She considers a field and buys it; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard.

Pro 31:17 She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks.

Pro 31:18 She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night.

Contributing financially

Manages the family budget

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The biblical model woman's role

Pro 31:19 In her hand she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers.

Making clothes

¹⁶ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The biblical model woman's role

Pro 31:20 She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy.

Helping others

¹⁶ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The biblical model woman's role

Pro 31:21 When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet.

Pro 31:22 She makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in fine linen and purple.

Taking care of family's needs

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The biblical model woman's role

Pro 31:23 Her husband is respected at the city gate,
where he takes his seat among the elders of the land.

She makes her husband look good!

¹⁶ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
⁴¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ⁴² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

⁴¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The biblical model woman's role

Pro 31:24 She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies the merchants with sashes.

Pro 31:25 She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come.

Pro 31:26 She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

Productive, dignified, wise

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The biblical model woman's role

Pro 31:27 She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness.

Everything described is for the benefit of her household

¹⁶ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The biblical model woman's role

Pro 31:28 Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her:

Pro 31:29 "Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all."

No wonder!

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The biblical model woman's role

Pro 31:30 Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;
but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

Pro 31:31 Give her the reward she has earned, and let
her works bring her praise at the city gate.

Amen!

Epilogue: The Wife of
Character

¹⁰A wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.

¹¹Her husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.

¹²She brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.

¹³She selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.

¹⁴She is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

¹⁰ Hebrew Sheol ¹² That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
¹¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

¹¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The woman's role in the New Testament

Tit 2:3 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.

Tit 2:4 Then they can train the younger women to love their **husbands and children**,

Tit 2:5 to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The woman's role in the New Testament

Tit 2:3 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.

Tit 2:4 Then they can train the younger women to love their **husbands and children**,

Tit 2:5 to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.

Still talking about wives with children

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The woman's role in the New Testament

Tit 2:3 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.

Tit 2:4 Then they can train the younger women to love their **husbands and children**,

Tit 2:5 to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.

Still talking about wives with children

Same message as Proverbs 31

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The woman's role in the New Testament

Tit 2:3 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.

Tit 2:4 Then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children,

Tit 2:5 to be self-controlled and pure, **to be busy at home**, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.

Let's take a closer look at this phrase

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

The woman's role in the New Testament

οἰκουρός (oikouros)

From [G3624](#) and οὔρος ouros (a *guard*; be “ware”); a *stayer at home*, that is, *domestically inclined* (a “good housekeeper”): - keeper at home.

KJV “keepers at home”
ASV “workers at home”
ESV “working at home”
NIV “busy at home”
NKJV “homemakers”
HCSB “homemakers”

It's not hard to understand what this means

It may be hard to get there from here.

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Prominent New Testament Women

Luk 8:3 Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.

¹⁶ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
⁴¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ⁴² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

⁴¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Prominent New Testament Women

Luk 8:3 Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.

Act 9:36 In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor.

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Prominent New Testament Women

Luk 8:3 Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.

Act 9:36 In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor.

Act 16:14 One of those listening was a woman named Lydia, a dealer in purple cloth from the city of Thyatira, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to respond to Paul's message.

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Prominent New Testament Women

Act 18:26 He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately.

¹⁶ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
⁴¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ⁴² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

⁴¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Prominent New Testament Women

Act 18:26 He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately.

Rom 16:1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church in Cenchrea.

Rom 16:2 I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been a great help to many people, including me.

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

Prominent New Testament Women

Act 18:26 He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately.

Rom 16:1 I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a servant of the church in Cenchrea.

Rom 16:2 I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of the saints and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been a great help to many people, including me.

Rom 16:6 Greet Mary, who worked very hard for you.

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

What conclusions can we draw?

These were women who worked hard
They helping the needy
Some of them earned an income

21^aUnder three things the earth trembles,
under four it cannot bear up:
22^aa servant who becomes king,
a fool who is full of food,
23^aan unloved woman who is married,
and a maidservant who displaces her
mistress.
24^aFour things on earth are small,
yet they are extremely wise:
25^aAnts are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the
summer;
26^aconey^b are creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;
27^alocusts have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;
28^aa lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.
29^aThere are three things that are stately in
their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:
30^aa lion, mighty among beasts,

wine to those who are in anguish;
7^alet them drink and forget their poverty
and remember their misery no more.
8^aSpeak up for those who cannot speak for
themselves,
for the rights of all who are destitute.
9^aSpeak up and judge fairly:
defend the rights of the poor and
needy."

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

10^aA wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.
11^aHer husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.
12^aShe brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.
13^aShe selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.
14^aShe is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

king in Jerusalem:
2^a"Meaningless! Meaningless!"
says the Teacher.
"Utterly meaningless!
Everything is meaningless."
3^aWhat does man gain from all his labor
at which he toils under the sun?
4^aGenerations come and generations go,
but the earth remains forever.
5^aThe sun rises and the sun sets,
and hurries back to where it rises.
6^aThe wind blows to the south
and turns to the north;
round and round it goes,
ever returning on its course.
7^aAll streams flow into the sea,
yet the sea is never full.
To the place the streams come from,
there they return again.
8^aAll things are wearisome,
more than one can say.
The eye never has enough of seeing,

there is nothing new under the sun.
10^aIs there anything of which one can say,
"Look! This is something new?"
It was here already, long ago;
it was here before our time.
11^aThere is no remembrance of men of old,
and even those who are yet to come
will not be remembered
by those who follow.

Wisdom Is Meaningless

12^a], the Teacher, was king over Israel in
Jerusalem. 13^a] devoted myself to study and to
explore by wisdom all that is done under heav-
en. What a heavy burden God has laid on men!
14^a] have seen all the things that are done un-
der the sun; all of them are meaningless, a
chasing after the wind.
15^aWhat is twisted cannot be straightened;
what is lacking cannot be counted.
16^a] thought to myself, "Look, I have grown
and increased in wisdom more than anyone

^a16 Hebrew Sheol ^a26 That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ^a31 Or king secure against revolt
^a1 Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ^a2 Or / the answer to my prayers ^a10 Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

^a1 Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

What conclusions can we draw?

These were women who worked hard
They helping the needy
Some of them earned an income

None of these examples can be taken as recommendations for women who have “husbands and children” to work full time outside the home.

25 Ants are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the summer;
26 coney^b are creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;
27 locusts have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;
28 a lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.
29 There are three things that are stately in
their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:
30 a lion, mighty among beasts,

^a16 Hebrew Sheol ^b26 That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ^c31 Or king secure against revolt
^d1 Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ^e2 Or / the answer to my prayers ^f10 Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

¹⁰A wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.
¹¹Her husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.
¹²She brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.
¹³She selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.
¹⁴She is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

generations come and go,
but the earth remains forever.
⁵The sun rises and the sun sets,
and hurries back to where it rises.
⁶The wind blows to the south
and turns to the north;
round and round it goes,
ever returning on its course.
⁷All streams flow into the sea,
yet the sea is never full.
To the place the streams come from,
there they return again.
⁸All things are wearisome,
more than one can say.
The eye never has enough of seeing,

¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

Wisdom Is Meaningless

¹²J, the Teacher, was king over Israel in
Jerusalem. ¹³J devoted myself to study and to
explore by wisdom all that is done under heav-
en. What a heavy burden God has laid on men!
¹⁴J have seen all the things that are done un-
der the sun; all of them are meaningless, a
chasing after the wind.
¹⁵What is twisted cannot be straightened;
what is lacking cannot be counted.
¹⁶J thought to myself, "Look, I have grown
and increased in wisdom more than anyone

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

What conclusions can we draw?

These were women who worked hard
They helping the needy
Some of them earned an income

None of these examples can be taken as recommendations for women who have “husbands and children” to work full time outside the home.

Tit 2:4 Then they can train the younger women to love **their husbands and children,**

Tit 2:5 to be self-controlled and pure, **to be busy at home,** to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

What does this mean for us?

Single Moms:

- It is honorable and right for you to work to support your families.

21^aUnder three things the earth trembles,
under four it cannot bear up:
22^aa servant who becomes king,
a fool who is full of food,
23^aan unloved woman who is married,
and a maidservant who displaces her
mistress.
24^aFour things on earth are small,
yet they are extremely wise:
25^aAnts are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the
summer;
26^aconey^b are creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;
27^alocusts have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;
28^aa lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.
29^aThere are three things that are stately in
their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:
30^aa lion, mighty among beasts,

31^aGive beer to those who are perishing,
wine to those who are in anguish;
32^alet them drink and forget their poverty
and remember their misery no more.
33^aSpeak up for those who cannot speak for
themselves,
for the rights of all who are destitute.
34^aSpeak up and judge fairly:
defend the rights of the poor and
needy."

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

10^aA wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.
11^aHer husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.
12^aShe brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.
13^aShe selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.
14^aShe is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

1 The words of the Teacher,^a son of David,
king in Jerusalem:
2^a"Meaningless! Meaningless!"
says the Teacher.
3^a"Utterly meaningless!
Everything is meaningless."
4^aWhat does man gain from all his labor
at which he toils under the sun?
5^aGenerations come and generations go,
but the earth remains forever.
6^aThe sun rises and the sun sets,
and hurries back to where it rises.
7^aThe wind blows to the south
and turns to the north;
round and round it goes,
ever returning on its course.
8^aAll streams flow into the sea,
yet the sea is never full.
9^aTo the place the streams come from,
there they return again.
10^aAll things are wearisome,
more than one can say.
11^aThe eye never has enough of seeing,

12^awhat has been done will be done again;
there is nothing new under the sun.
13^aIs there anything of which one can say,
"Look! This is something new?"
14^aIt was here already, long ago;
it was here before our time.
15^aThere is no remembrance of men of old,
and even those who are yet to come
will not be remembered
by those who follow.
Wisdom Is Meaningless
12^a], the Teacher, was king over Israel in
Jerusalem. 13^a] devoted myself to study and to
explore by wisdom all that is done under heav-
en. What a heavy burden God has laid on men!
14^a] have seen all the things that are done un-
der the sun; all of them are meaningless, a
chasing after the wind.
15^a] What is twisted cannot be straightened;
what is lacking cannot be counted.
16^a] thought to myself, "Look, I have grown
and increased in wisdom more than anyone

^a16 Hebrew Sheol ^a26 That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ^a31 Or king secure against revolt
^a1 Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ^a2 Or / the answer to my prayers ^a10 Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

^a1 Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

What does this mean for us?

Single Moms:

- It is honorable and right for you to work to support your families.

Young single women:

- Make the right choices now so that you can live this kind of life

¹⁶ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
⁴¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ⁴² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

⁴¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

What does this mean for us?

Single Moms:

- It is honorable and right for you to work to support your families.

Young single women:

- Make the right choices now so that you can live this kind of life

Young marrieds, no kids:

- Make the right choices now so that you can live this kind of life

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

What does this mean for us?

Married parents:

- Take the necessary steps to live on the husband's income
- The Financial Peace course can help!

¹⁶ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
⁴¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ⁴² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

⁴¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

What does this mean for us?

Married parents:

- Take the necessary steps to live on the husband's income
- The Financial Peace course can help!

Older women:

- Teach these things to the younger women!

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

What does this mean for us?

Married parents:

- Take the necessary steps to live on the husband's income
- The Financial Peace course can help!

Older women:

- Teach these things to the younger women!

Men

- Step up your game!
- If you want a Proverbs 31 wife, be an Ephesians 5 husband!

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

What does this mean for us?

Married parents:

- Take the necessary steps to live on the husband's income
- The Financial Peace course can help!

Older women:

- Teach these things to the younger women!

Men

- Step up your game!
- If you want a Proverbs 31 wife, be an Ephesians 5 husband!

Eph 5:25 Husbands, love your wives, just **as Christ loved the church** and gave himself up for her

Eph 5:29 After all, no one ever hated his own body, but he **feeds and cares for it**, just as Christ does the church.

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

What does this mean for us?

We have just skimmed the surface of this topic!

- Study it out with an open mind
- Talk with the elders and our wives
- Get advice!

15*The
"Giv
"Then
four
16the gr
land
and
17*The eye that mocks a father,
that scorns obedience to a mother,
will be pecked out by the ravens of
valley,
will be eaten by the vultures.
18*There are three things that are too
amazing for me:
four that I do not
19the way of an eagle
the way of a snake
the way of a ship on
and the way of a man
20*This is the way of a
She eats and wipes
and says, "I've done
21*Under three things
under four it cannot
22a servant who becomes king,
a fool who is full of food,
23an unloved woman who is married,
and a maidservant who displaces her
mistress.
24*Four things on earth are small,
yet they are extremely wise:
25Ants are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the
summer;
26coney^b are creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;
27locusts have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;
28a lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.
29*There are three things that are stately in
their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:
30a lion, mighty among beasts,

¹⁶ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
⁴¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ⁴² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

31 The sayings of King Lemuel—
his mother taught him:

⁸Speak up for those who cannot speak for
themselves,
for the rights of all who are destitute.
⁹Speak up and judge fairly:
defend the rights of the poor and
needy."

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

¹⁰A wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.
¹¹Her husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.
¹²She brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.
¹³She selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.
¹⁴She is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

15She gets up while it is still dark;
she provides food for her family

17When it snows, she has no fear for her
household;

says the Teacher.
"Utterly meaningless!
Everything is meaningless."

³What does man gain from all his labor
at which he toils under the sun?
⁴Generations come and generations go,
but the earth remains forever.
⁵The sun rises and the sun sets,
and hurries back to where it rises.
⁶The wind blows to the south
and turns to the north;
round and round it goes,
ever returning on its course.
⁷All streams flow into the sea,
yet the sea is never full.
To the place the streams come from,
there they return again.
⁸All things are wearisome,
more than one can say.
The eye never has enough of seeing,

⁴¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

where he takes his seat among the
elders of the land.

18Charm is deceptive, and beauty
does not profit;
but a woman who fears the Lord is to
be praised.
For the reward she has earned,
let her works bring her praise at
the city gate.

It was here already, long ago;
it was here before our time.
¹¹There is no remembrance of men of old,
and even those who are yet to come
will not be remembered
by those who follow.

Wisdom Is Meaningless

¹²J, the Teacher, was king over Israel in
Jerusalem. ¹³J devoted myself to study and to
explore by wisdom all that is done under heav-
en. What a heavy burden God has laid on men!
¹⁴J have seen all the things that are done un-
der the sun; all of them are meaningless, a
chasing after the wind.
¹⁵What is twisted cannot be straightened;
what is lacking cannot be counted.
¹⁶J thought to myself, "Look, I have grown
and increased in wisdom more than anyone

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

What does this mean for us?

We have just skimmed the surface of this topic!

- Study it out with an open mind
- Talk with the elders and our wives
- Get advice!

Men, it's your responsibility to make this possible for your wife.

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

- ¹⁰A wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.
¹¹Her husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.
¹²She brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.
¹³She selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.
¹⁴She is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

Wisdom Is Meaningless

- ¹²J, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³J devoted myself to study and to explore by wisdom all that is done under heaven. What a heavy burden God has laid on men! ¹⁴J have seen all the things that are done under the sun; all of them are meaningless, a chasing after the wind.
¹⁵What is twisted cannot be straightened; what is lacking cannot be counted.
¹⁶J thought to myself, "Look, I have grown and increased in wisdom more than anyone

¹⁰ Hebrew Sheol ²⁶ That is, the hyrax or rock badger. ³¹ Or king secure against revolt
⁴¹ Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which ⁴² Or / the answer to my prayers ¹¹⁰ Verses 10-31 are an acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.

⁴¹ Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

What does this mean for us?

We have just skimmed the surface of this topic!

- Study it out with an open mind
- Talk with the elders and our wives
- Get advice!

Men, it's your responsibility to make this possible for your wife.

Get a biblical vision for your household

- Take one step at a time to get there
- Rejoice in your salvation as you go!

to devour the poor from the earth,
the needy from among mankind.

15 The leech has two daughters.
"Give! Give!" they cry.

"There are three things that are never
satisfied,

four that never say, "Enough!":

16 the grave,^a the barren womb,
land, which is never satisfied with
water,

and fire, which never says, "Enough!"

17 The eye that mocks a father,
that scorns obedience,
will be pecked out by the
valley,
will be eaten by the vulture.

18 There are three things
amazing for me,
four that I do not understand:

19 the way of an eagle in the
sky,
the way of a snake on the
ground,
the way of a ship on the
sea,
and the way of a man.

20 This is the way of an adulteress:
She eats and wipes her
mouth,
and says, "I've done nothing."

21 Under three things the
earth trembles,
under four it cannot be
moved:

22 a servant who becomes
king,
a fool who is full of
foolishness,

23 an unloved woman who
leaves her husband
and a maidservant who
replaces her mistress.

24 Four things on earth are small,
yet they are extremely wise:

25 Ants are creatures of little strength,
yet they store up their food in the
summer;

26 coney^b are creatures of little power,
yet they make their home in the crags;

27 locusts have no king,
yet they advance together in ranks;

28 a lizard can be caught with the hand,
yet it is found in kings' palaces.

29 There are three things that are stately in
their stride,
four that move with stately bearing:

30 a lion, mighty among beasts,
an ox,
a bull,
and a king,
each walking in the ranks of his
court.

who retreats before nothing;
31 a strutting rooster, a he-goat,
and a king with his army around him.
32 If you have played the fool and exalted
yourself,
or if you have planned evil,
clap your hand over your mouth!
33 For as churning the milk produces butter,
and as twisting the nose produces
blood,
so stirring up anger produces strife.

Sayings of King Lemuel

The sayings of King Lemuel—an
oracle given by the Spirit of the Lord.

The Woman's Role in the Body of Christ

defend the rights of the poor and
needy."

Epilogue: The Wife of Noble Character

10 A wife of noble character who can find?
She is worth far more than rubies.

11 Her husband has full confidence in her
and lacks nothing of value.

12 She brings him good, not harm,
all the days of her life.

13 She selects wool and flax
and works with eager hands.

14 She is like the merchant ships,
bringing her food from afar.

15 She gets up while it is still dark;
she provides food for her family
and portions for her servant girls.
16 She considers a field and buys it;
out of her earnings she plants a
vineyard.
17 She sets about her work vigorously;
her arms are strong for her tasks.
18 She sees that her trading is profitable,
and her lamp does not go out at night.
19 In her hand she holds the distaff
and grasps the spindle with her
fingers.

20 She opens her arms to the poor
and extends her hands to the needy.
When it snows, she has no fear for her
family,
because she has provided for them.

where he takes his seat among the
elders of the land.

24 She makes linen garments and sells them,
and supplies the merchants with sashes.

25 She is clothed with strength and dignity;
she can laugh at the days to come.

26 She speaks with wisdom,
and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

27 She watches over the affairs of her
household
and does not eat the bread of idleness.

28 Her children arise and call her blessed;
her husband also, and he praises her:

29 "Many women do noble things,
but you surpass them all."

30 Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting;
but a woman who fears the Lord is to
be praised.

What does man gain from all his
toil
at which he toils under the sun?

4 Generations come and generations go,
but the earth remains forever.

5 The sun rises and the sun sets,
and hurries back to where it rises.

6 The wind blows to the south
and turns to the north;
round and round it goes,
ever returning on its course.

7 All streams flow into the sea,
yet the sea is never full.
To the place the streams come from,
there they return again.

8 All things are wearisome,
more than one can say.
The eye never has enough of seeing,

will not be remembered
by those who follow.

Wisdom Is Meaningless

12 J, the Teacher, was king over Israel in
Jerusalem. 13 J devoted myself to study and to
explore by wisdom all that is done under heav-
en. What a heavy burden God has laid on men!
14 I have seen all the things that are done un-
der the sun; all of them are meaningless, a
chasing after the wind.

15 What is twisted cannot be straightened;
what is lacking cannot be counted.

16 I thought to myself, "Look, I have grown
and increased in wisdom more than anyone
before me,"

41 Or leader of the assembly; also in verses 2 and 12

16 Hebrew Sheol 26 That is, the hyrax or rock badger. 31 Or king secure against revolt
41 Or of Lemuel king of Massa, which 2 Or / the answer to my prayers 110 Verses 10-31 are an
acrostic, each verse beginning with a successive letter of the Hebrew alphabet.