

THE ROLE OF WOMEN IN THE CHURCH (2)

***Creation Principle One...** *God made men and women in his image. God made man as a leader and woman as a helper (both reflect the glory of God... both are equal in the sight of God). Human life and human development built upon everlasting values, are God's greatest priorities. Women have a definite and life giving role to play, to achieve these God given preferences.*

***Creation Principle Two...** *God created men and women to be united into family units. We are born into families, many marry and form families, also we are born again into a church where non blood relatives become the most important family members in our life. The building block of all human life is the family unit and the application of its principles.*

*There are numerous conflicting beliefs as to how women are supposed to live in these corrupt and controversial times. A Godly Christian woman is a woman who first and foremost submits herself to the will of Christ. Like men, she must accept the role God has given her, as her happiness and success will be granted by God, rather than the expectations of modern trends. **PRO 31:10** Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. **PSA 113:9** He maketh the barren woman to keep house, and to be a joyful mother of children. Praise ye the LORD. **PRO 11:16** A gracious woman retaineth honour: and strong men retain riches. God blesses good women, he uses his power to improve their lives.*

***Failing One...** *Women frequently take on leadership roles because men won't... however, God created and equipped them to be helper orientated. Strong leadership comes from spiritually strong men; these men are also the product of strong women... they are supported by mothers, sisters, wives, diligent church women, etc. Their skills and talents are equally nurtured and possible because of women, who understand their God given role. Eve's failure was life taking... Godly women are life giving.*

***Failing Two...** *God made women attractive to men (the first thing they became aware of after they ate the fruit was they were naked... their sexual characteristics became a focus. From early childhood, girls are aware of grooming and beauty, they are aware of the need to be pretty and attractive... these are healthy and normal responses to their future helper role. However, God never intended that women would expose their bodies or present sexual imagery (clothing, talk, posture, etc), that would be sexually appealing to other men. God made the woman to be a helper to the man... her sexuality was reserved for her husband and no other. Lack of modesty and predatory body language or style, distract men and can impede them from being strong protective leaders. The failure of many men is linked to the distractions of female charms and lack of interest from their own wives.*

***Solution One...** *God has given women a wonderful and powerful role in the church. **TIT 2:3-5** The aged (mature, reverend) women likewise, that they be in behaviour as becometh holiness, not false accusers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things; That they may teach (train) the young women to be sober (sound in mind), to love their husbands, to love their children (these skills are not natural, they need to be promoted and taught), To be discreet (self controlled), chaste (modest), keepers at home (manager of the household), good (upright), obedient to their own husbands (subject to), that the word of God be not blasphemed (spoken evil of). Women have the very important role of developing and nurturing children into their adult years. They also have the power to guide and shepherd young women and wives through to their mature years. This is true, God given leadership, but it is not inferior nor less important than the leadership role that men have been given. A good woman can inspire leadership in her husband through obeying God.*

*Wives can win unbelieving husbands to the Lord... by living to the female role model. **1PET 3:1-2** Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands; that, if any obey not the word, they also may without the word be won by the conversation of the wives; While they behold your chaste conversation coupled with fear. The life example of a good woman can achieve more than a million words.*

***Solution Two...** *God has wisely managed the second problem. **1COR 7:4-5** The wife hath not power of her own body, but the husband: and likewise also the husband hath not power of his own body, but the wife. Defraud ye not one the other, except it be with consent for a time, that ye may give yourselves to fasting and prayer; and come together again, that Satan tempt you not for your incontinency. All married couples are commanded to meet the physical and emotional needs of their partners... the attractions of others will have much less influence to a contented spouse. Christian men hold a lot of appeal to worldly women... care for your men.*

*God also amplifies the power that modesty offers. **1PET 3:3-4** Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; But let it be the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price. The best attraction a woman can have is a beautiful spirit.*

***Loving and serving your husband and family...** *Study God's purposes for you and live them to the best of your ability... be a helper, enjoy serving. God has clearly stated his support and blessing to the Christian woman. He guards her, protects her, gives her the safety and security she needs. He offers her the same salvation as her husband or brother. She is of great value to the kingdom of heaven... she is priceless.*