SERIES: A Marriage Without Regrets
TITLE: Program 10 – How To Be An Excellent Wife

FRIDAY

OPEN
An excellent wife who can find one? Son, if you find an excellent wife, you’ve got a woman who’s worth is far above the price of all sorts of jewels. In other words she’s not going to compromise. She’s going to have absolutes. She’s going to have a right and she’s going to have a wrong. And she’s going to do what’s right. She’s a woman of strong moral fiber.

PART ONE
Unfortunately what those people could not see was they were taking them into greater bondage. They were about to incarcerate them, so to speak, in a prison of impossibilities. You see they were told that because they were women, men looked down on them. They were less than a man. But being a woman doesn’t make you less than a man. Just because women are different from men doesn’t mean that they’re less than men. It means that God designed us male and female. God gave man a role and God gave woman a
role. And once a woman understands what her role is, what her bent is, because she’s simply female and she finds fulfillment staying within that realm, then that woman is absolutely liberated. And what happened was this: The church somehow got away from the Word of God. They stopped believing that the Word of God was really the Word of God, that from Genesis to Revelation there were no mistakes, there were no errors. In fact, under Julius Wellhausen, what happened was, the seeds of literary criticism came into the seminaries. So we began to doubt the veracity of the Word of God. Anytime that you get away from the Word of God, you have a distortion. You have a distortion in your thinking and that distortion in your thinking leads to a distortion in the way that you live. And that in turn wrecks havoc in a society, in a family. And that’s exactly what happened in the sexual revolution. We now have women in the work force, 66% of women are in the work force full time. 91% of single mothers are in the work force full time. On top of that, every woman that is 18 and above, 89% of those women are caregivers. They’re responsible not only for working, but they are responsible for caring for their children, or caring for the elderly. And listen, both of those things are part of a woman’s role. They’re part of what God designed a woman for. And so in the light of that, what I want to do is I want to help us turn the tide. I want to take the key and open the prison doors. I want to liberate you by truth. You know Jesus said, “You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free.” And I want to show you how, in this series, that we’re doing on marriage and the family, I want to show you how to come back to that place where you know who you are as a woman. You know your role. You understand it. You’re not demeaned by the fact that you’re a woman, because you’re created equal with the man and you’re precious in God’s sight and you’re vital in God’s plan. And I just want you to understand that. I want you to know what God says about you and how you should live. Well, we were looking at Titus, chapter 2. And yes, you do remember that in the New Testament all the T’s come together.
And the longest T’s are first, the Thessalonians and then the Timothy and then the Titus. In Titus, chapter 2, we find instructions from God through the apostle Paul, to the Christians that are living in Crete. And he’s telling what the older women are to do. Among the things that the older women are to be and to do, they are to teach the young women. They were to encourage the young women. They were to teach them to love their husbands and to love their children. Why? Because as we saw, this is a woman’s two primary roles, the role as a wife and the role as a mother. That’s where her focus needs to be. That’s a full time career, being a wife and being a mother. And it is career of careers, because if you stop and think about it, what you are doing is, you are raising the next generation. You are raising up children that are going to step into society and they are either going to live well or they’re going to live a life that is a disaster. And you are contributing of the welfare of mankind by holding a family together and by holding a marriage together. Now, I was thinking about it. And I want to go back to this book that I was quoting to you, “What Our Mothers Didn’t Tell Us, Why Happiness Eludes the Modern Woman.” And it’s by Danielle Crittenden. And I don’t know the woman, but I know that if I met her, that I would like her very, very much. I mean, she is right on and I haven’t read the whole book, but I’ve skipped through it and I’ve scanned it. And she’s got some good stuff in here. But I want to talk to you about this purity. Because with the sexual revolution came, so to speak, a sexual liberation. Now sex was power. We don’t need men. But if I want to have them, I can make them tow the line because sex is power. And as the woman moved out of the home and this is so important for you to understand. But as the woman moved out of the home and moved into the work place, she put herself into a very vulnerable position. She’s now amongst all these men. She’s now in close contact with these men. And the men are in a very vulnerable position also because you’re sharing all these business things. I mean, he’s asking a question. You’re leaning over his shoulder trying to point out what these figures are on this business deal
or see what he said in this letter. You’re leaning over there. And listen, we all have hormones. I mean, there is an attraction. You can be happily married to your husband and be attracted all of a sudden to someone else. And that’s simply because we’re human beings. A man can look at a woman and a man is turned on by sight by the way. So a man looks at a woman. Now when a man looks at a woman and he’s turned on, he should be going home. And he should be finding fulfillment there. And honestly, when they survey men, men want to be with one woman that they are very, very comfortable with. One woman that will accept them whether they perform well or they do not perform well. One woman that will accept them whether they look like a Greek god or whether they don’t look like a Greek god. One woman that will know all about them and say, “Hey, you’re my hero. You’re my man.” That’s what they want, but that’s not what society tells us. I mean, just go to the magazine racks. Look at the women’s magazines. Look at all the articles. I thought about bringing some in, but I’m almost, in a sense, embarrassed and I don’t want to put them before your eyes, because you don’t need anymore going into that brain. You need to focus on things that are pure. So the older women were to teach women, “Be sensible. Be sensible. Keep your heads screwed on right. Don’t run after your emotions, don’t flit around. Remember that you have goals. Remember that you have a purpose. Remember as Lamentations says to, “Consider your future. Think down the road.” And then I want you to be pure. I want you to be pure. And we talked about the importance of the mind. And we had talked about the importance of keeping your thoughts under control. But listen to what she says. “Our grandmothers might have led more sheltered sex lives, but they also controlled...,” I love this. “…What amounted to a sexual cartel, setting a high price for sexual involvement and punishing both men and women if they broke the agreement, either by forcing them into marriage or by ostracizing them from respectable company.” In other words, there was a day even when Hollywood could not get away with blatant immorality. They
could not get away with their affairs because if they were brought to the surface then because society still had absolutes, then because society still had moral values. And those absolutes and moral values were based on the fact that when this nation was founded they didn’t all believe in God, they didn’t all believe in Jesus Christ, they weren’t all a certain denomination or that, but there was in this country, in the United States of America, a fear of God that was before our eyes. That’s why you find His name engraved, carved on so many monuments in Washington, D.C. They acknowledge there was a God. And so this God says that sex out of marriage is wrong. “Marriage is honorable in all…,’ Hebrews says it, “…and the bed undefiled…,” but, but... It’s a big but there. “…but fornicators and adulterers God will judge.” So this is what it says. She goes on to say, “Sexual rules create sexual solidarity among women. If men feel that they can flit from woman to woman, they will. They will enjoy a ready availability and exploit it to their advantage. But if women, as a group, cease to be readily available, if they begin to demand commitment and real commitment as in marriage in exchange for sex, market conditions will shift in favor of women.” And they need to shift. And they need to shift because God is going to judge America if they do not shift. As a matter of fact, I think His hand of judgment is upon us. Now He may have stayed it for a while, but we better shape up while we have time. Well he goes on to say, that the women are to be sensible, pure, workers at home. I’ll explain that to you. That means a keeper of a house. Now where does God go into detail on keeping a house? In the final chapter of the book of Proverbs, and I want to take you to the book of Proverbs. It’s a book of wisdom. It’s a book of wise sayings. It’s a book that gives you discernment in life. When we come to communication, you’re going to find a lot in the book of Proverbs. But listen to what he says. In Proverbs 31, verse 10, “An excellent wife, who can find?” Now remember this is a wife. She is to love her husband. She is to love her children and she is to be a
keeper of the home. So, “An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels.”

PART TWO

“She does him good and not evil all the days of her life.” You know there are so many women that are doing evil towards their husband. They’re simmering. They’re on the stove and they’re at that simmering stage and something’s about to make them ignite and just boil over, because they’re seething inside. Now a lot of that, Precious One, is many times because of the man. And so you and I have to recognize also that the man has a responsibility. But we’re going to talk about him later. All right, now she’s a woman of duty. “She looks for wool and flax and she works with her hands in delight. She is like a merchant ship. She brings her food from afar.” She knows that she is responsible to take care of that home, that she’s responsible to take care of that family. And so that’s what she does. She’s there and she’s diligently working. She’s a woman of discipline. Listen to this. “She rises also while it is still night. And she gives food to her household and portions to her maidens.” Now, you say, “Arises while it’s still night. Don’t give me that. I’m getting to bed so late.” Listen, I’m sure she went to bed early. She didn’t have electricity. And she didn’t have all those things that were running on electricity late at night, because she was out working like so many of our women are out working today. This is a woman that is disciplined. And whatever it takes for us to be the keeper of that house, to make our house run properly, that’s what we need to do. And that’s what this woman is doing. All right now watch. She is a woman of discipline. She is a woman of discernment. This woman’s got her head screwed on straight. It says, “She considers a field and she buys it. From her earnings, she plants a vineyard.” This is an industrious woman. This is a woman that is thinking future. This is a woman that is using her gifts and her abilities. So she looks at a field, she says, “Hey, that’s a good field. What’s
the price you can give me?” She negotiates that price. And she buys it and she plants a vineyard. She’s providing for her home. So this is not a woman that is just constantly changing diapers. I mean, she’s got her act together. She’s got her home together. But I want to tell you something. There is a stage in your life when you are constantly changing diapers and that’s what God intends for you to do. And it’s not demeaning, because you’re changing the diapers of someone that is going to grow up to be a woman or man that is strong in understanding their worth and their significance if, if you have properly loved them, if you have properly taught them, if you have properly trained them. And did you hear the “you, the you, the you”? I’m talking to the mother. I’m talking about not someone you hire, not someone you hired to be the caretaker of your children. If you have children at home and you can write me. And you can complain and you fuss and you can let me know what you think. I would love to hear from you. You know, because in this I’m doing all the talking. And I love hearing from you. Even if you’re upset, but if you’re upset, please be a lady about it. Okay? Now, she is not only a woman of discernment, but she is a woman of direction. Watch. “She girds herself with strength. She makes her arms strong. She senses that her gain is good. Her lamp does not go out at night. She’s not lazy. She stretches out her hands to the distaff and her palms grasp the spindle.” In other words, here she is she’s weaving. They had to in those days. She was making her clothes. She was making the textiles for her clothes. Now listen carefully. “She extends her hand to the poor and she stretches out her hand to the needy.” You know what I believe has happened in our society? I believe that women should be taking care of a lot of what the government is doing. I believe that we have lost our focus. I believe that we should be out there helping the poor. I believe that we should be out there visiting the elderly. I believe that we could clean out a lot of nursing homes if we just understood the principles of what God’s Word has to say and our responsibilities to our parents. But the problem is that with this sexual revolution there came a
focus on me. You’re number one. You’ve got to take care of yourself. You’ve got to look out for yourself. You can’t trust a man to take care of you. You’ve got to do it. So we’re pulled out from our natural things, from that heart of compassion, from that heart of sensitivity, for that bent towards relationships. But this woman was a woman of direction. She knew where she was going. She knew who she was. She knew her bent as a woman and she was going to put her gifts as a woman to work. So, “She extends her hands to the poor. She stretches out her hands to the needy.” The next thing you see is this is a woman of decorum. You know, one of the things that bothers me today is that we have lost the graciousness of life. We’ve forgotten how to set a pretty table. We’ve forgotten how to entertain. We have big beautiful homes. We keep building them bigger and we keep buying things. But do we have people in? No. We go out to eat. Why? We’re so busy. What are we doing? We don’t have our act together. We’re not thinking it through. This is a woman of decorum. “She’s not afraid of the snow for her household. All of her household are covered with scarlet. She makes coverings for herself. Her clothing is fine linen and purple. Her husband is known in the gates. When he sits among the elders of the land…. Now listen, to sit at the gate was really something. That’s where all of the decision making went on. I mean that’s where the leaders sat. And he’s sitting at the gates and he is known as being her husband. Look, “She makes linen garments and she sells them. She supplies belts to the tradesmen. Strength and dignity, dignity are her clothing…,” It says, “…and she smiles at the future.” She’s a wife of decorum. She has her act together. She enjoys being a woman. You know. And I read business magazines, I want you to know that. But I also read Victoria, the magazine Victoria. And I read it because it takes me back to a graciousness of life, a grace of life. And I don’t even have my house decorated in a Victorian way. But I love that graciousness. And finally, “She’s a woman of discretion. She opens her mouth in wisdom. And the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. She looks
well to the ways of her household. She does not eat the bread of idleness. Her children rise up and bless her. Her husband also and he praises her saying, ‘Many daughters have done nobly, but you excel them all.’” In other words, he just puts down the newspaper, he looks at her and he says, “You know what? I talked to these other guys, but nobody has a wife like I have. Honey, you’re the best. If I could take my pick of everyone, I would take my pick of you.” And the kids are sitting there listening. And they’re saying, “Yeah mom, yeah mom, you’re the greatest. All my friends wish that they had a mom like you.” That’s where you find your fulfillment. That’s what God created you to be. It says, “Many daughters have done nobly, but you excel them all.” And finally, she’s a woman of dedication. Listen carefully. “Charm is deceitful. Beauty is vain, but the woman who loves the Lord – she shall be praised.” She’s a woman who knows her God, she’s a woman who’s dedicated to her God and she knows her beauty is fleeting. But listen if your heart belongs to the Lord, if you fear Him, you’re a woman to be praised. And then it closes with this, “Give her the product of her hands, let her works praise her in the gates.” What will the product of your hands be?