
INTERNATIONAL TRAINING AND EQUIPPING MINISTRIES
Institute in the Foundations of Church Leadership
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A WOMAN OF NOBLE CHARACTER

Session 5

INTRODUCTION

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.” (Jeremiah 29:11)

Women were created by God to be helpers and companions. (Genesis 2:18) However, in order to be a helper and companion, there are skills and knowledge that need to be learned and practiced in a way that pleases the Lord as a young girl becomes a woman of noble character.

I. A WOMAN OF NOBLE CHARACTER (Proverbs 31:10-31)

A. She is trustworthy.

(v. 11 “Her husband has full confidence in her...”

(v. 28 “...her husband also, and he praises her.”)

1. She is a person that other people trust (feel safe with—emotionally, physically, spiritually)
 - a. She does not share the secret hurts and problems that another person has told her (other people are emotionally safe).
 - b. She does not hurt the bodies of people in her care (others are physically safe).
 - c. She teaches God’s word only (others are spiritually safe).
2. She is reliable.
 - a. She does what she says she is going to do.
 - b. She follows through on promises made.
3. She is faithful to her husband and family.
 - a. She is committed to doing the best she can for her family in all ways and at all times.

B. She is wise with money.

(v. 11 “...and lacks nothing of value.”

v. 14 “She is like the merchant ships bringing her food from afar.”)

1. She only purchases what she can afford.
2. She looks for bargains.
3. She invests money wisely.
4. She gives back to the Lord a tithe. When her heart prompts her, she gives an offering.
 - a. A tithe (10 percent) is what the Lord requires us to give back to Him. Not because God needs it, but because by giving our tithe back to God (through

the church), we are reminded of who is taking care of us. (Leviticus 27:30-32; Numbers 18:26; Deuteronomy 26:12; Hebrews 13:5)

- b. Tithing is the only thing God asks us to test Him with. (Malachi 3:10)
- c. Offerings are given in addition to our tithe to praise God and thank Him for His blessings. (Exodus 25:2; Psalm 54:6; Psalm 96:8; Philippians 4:18; 2 Corinthians 8:10-20)

C. She is a wonderful companion and helper.

(v. 12 “She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life.”)

v. 20 “She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy.”)

- 1. She lovingly looks for ways to build others’ self-confidence. (Ephesians 4:29)
 - a. She tells her friends and family how much she loves them, and why she loves them.
 - b. She tells other people that she is proud of them, and why she is proud of them. (She is grateful for the good things that came from what that person did or did not do.)
- 2. She will not say anything that will hurt another person. (Ephesians 4:29)
- 3. She looks for ways to show kindness to other people. (Acts 28:2)
 - a. She does things in secret so that God is praised, not her. (Matthew 6:3-4)
 - b. She is generous and offers to help others when she can. (Acts 11:29; Acts 20:34-35)
- 4. She is a partner with her family and husband throughout her life. (Genesis 2:22-24; Ephesians 5:31)
 - a. She is her husband’s best friend. (Ecclesiastes 4:10; Song of Songs 5:16)
 - b. She is highly valued as a partner in her marriage. (Ephesians 5:22-33)
 - c. She is able to respectfully share her thoughts with her husband, but chooses to support the decision her husband makes. (Ephesians 5:22—“Wives, submit to your husband as to the Lord.” *Submit* means to *lovingly respect*.)

D. She knows how to work.

(v. 13 “She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands.”)

v. 17 “She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks.”)

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

- 1. She thinks about what a job will require, then decides whether to start or not. (Matthew 23:28-30)
- 2. She is always busy finishing the tasks of the day, as well as thinking and planning for what needs to be done in the days and years to come. (1 Thessalonians 4:11-12)

E. She is a faithful and wise manager.

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

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

- v. 18 “She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night.”
- v. 24 “She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies the merchants with sashes.”)
 - 1. She helps to provide for the needs of her family.
 - 2. She is a respected business woman. (Luke 8:3; Acts 16:14)
 - 3. She is not hurried into decisions. She prays to God and asks for wisdom, asks for the opinions of others, thinks about the good things that could happen and the bad things, then makes a decision. (Luke 14:31-33)

- F. She takes care of the things she is supposed to do.
 - (v. 19 “In her hand she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers.”)
 - 1. She uses her skills and talents to bless those around her. (Acts 9:36-39)
 - 2. She is raising her children to honor the Lord. (Psalm 78:1-8; Ephesians 6:1; Deuteronomy 6:4-9)

- G. She does not worry.
 - (v. 21 “When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet.”)
 - v. 25 “She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come.”)
 - 1. She is not fearful or anxious about the future. (Matthew 6:25-34; Luke 12:29-31)
 - a. She takes care of the needs today, and does not worry about the troubles that tomorrow will bring.
 - 2. She is secure in the Lord. (Psalm 16:5-6; Proverbs 14:26; Hebrews 6:16-19)
 - 3. She trusts God to make all things right. (Romans 8:28)

- H. She has a noble character.
 - (v. 22 “She makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in fine linen and purple.”)
 - 1. She is a woman who is:
 - a. Respected—Other people think highly of her personal qualities and abilities.
 - b. Appreciated—Other people are thankful for her.
 - c. Esteemed—Other people have a favorable opinion of her.
 - d. Cherished—Other people care deeply about her.

- I. She is a partner in an upstanding family.
 - (v. 23 “Her husband is respected at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land.”)
 - 1. She is wise in the choice of a husband.
 - a. He was a born-again believer in Jesus Christ before they married. (1 Corinthians 7:39; 2 Corinthians 6:14)
 - i. He is a man who seeks God’s heart.
 - ii. He is a man who is wise in the Lord.
 - b. He is a man who is dedicated to his wife. (1 Peter 3:7)

- J. She is a mentor to others.
 - (v. 26 “She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.”)
 - 1. She listens.

2. She gives wise council.
 3. She is a role model.
 4. She is genuine.
- K. She is a good mother. (v. 28 “Her children arise and call her blessed;...”)
1. She loves her children. (Isaiah 49:15; Isaiah 66:13)
 - a. She understands the maturity level of her children, and counsels their decisions.
 2. She lovingly disciplines her children. (Proverbs 13:24; 19:18; 22:15; Hebrews 12:11)
 - a. She gives them acceptable choices from which they choose.
 - b. She helps her children grow into God-fearing adults.
- N. She fears the Lord. (vs. 29-31 “Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all. Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; 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.”)
1. She strives to be the woman God is creating her to be.
 2. She knows that true beauty is only found in a gentle and quiet spirit. (1 Peter 3:3-5)
 3. She seeks the Lord’s wisdom in all things.
 4. She loves the Lord.

CONCLUSION

A woman who is continually growing in the Lord, is a woman who will develop a noble character. These character traits take many years to develop, but God is faithful, and He never gives up on us as we ask for His grace and wisdom in becoming women of noble character.