

"A virtuous woman is a crown to her husband, symbolizing honor, joy, and pride, while a woman who brings shame is likened to rottenness in his bones, representing a constant, painful burden and source of grief."

Proverbs 12:4

This proverb emphasizes the profound impact a wife's character has on her husband's well-being and reputation. The virtuous woman is described as loving, chaste, faithful, diligent in managing her household, caring for her family, and maintaining order thereby bringing honor and credit to her husband.

Conversely, a wife who is unfaithful, negligent or slothful causes her husband to feel shame, making him uncomfortable to be around her. The imagery of "rottenness in his bones" or a "worm in wood" conveys deep, internal and consuming decay, suggesting that such a wife's negative influence is not merely superficial, but deeply damaging to the husband's spirit, health and estate.

The proverb serves as a reminder that while physical beauty may attract, lasting marital satisfaction and honor come from virtue, character and a life of integrity. It also highlights the difference between what men may desire (beauty) and what they truly need (virtue and companionship). A virtuous woman fears the Lord above all, nothing else matters to her but that she pleases God and pleases her husband every day.

Wives, there is only one way to be such a woman. Confess your sins to God and to your husband; eliminate all bitterness and self-righteousness; trust the Word of God without question and cheerfully do things without any compromise. You will be far happier, and your husband will also be, and the Lord will reward you. Husbands, there is hope. The Word of God can cure rottenness in your bones; if you can help your wives believe and obey it.

God created the woman for you, and He has written the perfect marriage manual for you to have.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law.

Galatians 5:22-23

STUDY
COMPANION
WEEK FOUR



"A WISE &
UNDERSTANDING
SPOUSE"

MESSAGE NOTES & VERSES

WHAT STEPS CAN YOU TAKE THIS WEEK TO
APPLY WHAT YOU LEARNED AS A COUPLE?

THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE:

*"However, let each one of you love his wife as himself,
and let the wife see that she respects her husband."*
Ephesians 5:33

NOTES

OUR PRAYERS