

Women in the Church

³Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good, ⁴and so train the young women to love their husbands and children, ⁵to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled.” Titus 2:3-5

OLDER WOMEN

Reverent in behavior

- Lifestyle of priestly service to the Lord
- Holy and set apart
- Lives in a holy fear of the Lord

“Come, O children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

¹²What man is there who desires life
and loves many days, that he may see good?

¹³Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from speaking deceit.

¹⁴Turn away from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.”

Psalm 34:11-14

“Blessed is everyone who fears the Lord,
who walks in his ways!

²You shall eat the fruit of the labor of your hands;
you shall be blessed, and it shall be well with
you.

³Your wife will be like a fruitful vine
within your house;
your children will be like olive shoots
around your table.

⁴Behold, thus shall the man be blessed
who fears the Lord.

⁵The Lord bless you from Zion!
May you see the prosperity of Jerusalem
all the days of your life!

⁶May you see your children's children!
Peace be upon Israel!”

Psalm 128:1-6

Reverence for the Lord

- Is taught and learned
- Is demonstrated in lifestyle
- Is fruitful for the entire family

Reverent Women:

- Control their tongue
 - Because their heart fears the Lord
- Control their appetites
 - Because they nourish the Spirit and not the flesh

Defiling or Adorning with our Tongues

“There is one whose rash words are like sword thrusts,
but the tongue of the wise brings healing. Proverbs 12:18

“For lack of wood the fire goes out,
and where there is no whisperer, quarreling ceases.” Proverbs 26:20

“Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear.” Ephesians 4:29

“With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.” James 3:9-10

“Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.” Psalm 19:14

Defiling or Adorning with our Appetites

Nourish the flesh or the Spirit

¹⁶ But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. ¹⁹ Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, ²⁰ idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy, fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, ²¹ envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. ²⁴ And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.” Galatians 5:16-26

Teach and Train the Younger Women

DISCIPLESHIP

The responsibility of all Christians

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.” Matthew 28:19-20

Younger Women are the Responsibility of ALL Older Women

- Growth in godly character cannot be pursued in isolation from service to others in the context of healthy relationships in the church.
- It is impossible to train others in qualities a person doesn't possess herself
- Modeling is the most effective way to train

What are Older Women to teach?

1. LOVE

- Love is sacrifice and service
 - “⁴Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant ⁵or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. ⁷Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.” 1 Corinthians 13:4-7
- Love is action
 - “...but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.” Romans 5:8
 - “By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.” 1 John 3:16-18
- Love must be taught and learned

2. CONDUCT

- Self-controlled
 - under the control of the Spirit not the unregenerate human nature
- Pure
 - Holy in heart, mind, and body
- Working at home
 - The home is of highest priority
 - The home is the main focus of attention
 - “Paul isn’t so much defining the only place a wife and mother can work as he is defining the home as the number one workplace ... the first priority for her energy and work.” Daniel Akin
 - The unseen work that shapes the family

3. RELATIONSHIPS

- Kind
 - Helpful, charitable, considerate, thoughtful
- Submissive to husband
 - An issue of order
 - Danger of extreme in either direction
 - Submission does not have to do with equality but with distinct roles
 - Trinity
 - Helper design
 - Being his completer, not competitor

Why is this important?

That the Word of God may not be reviled.

How Can We Pray?

Kristie Harrick: *Women's Ministry Director*
Chesley Peed Kalehoff: *Women and Children's Counselor*
The Women's Care Team
Pastor and Elder wives

- For the women of the church to live in the holy fear of the Lord.
- For all women of the church to be involved in discipleship.
- For older women to be reverent and eager to teach to train the younger women.
- For younger women to learn the value of loving their families and caring for their home.
- For the Word of God to adorned through the lives of the women in our church.

DISCUSSION

1. How were you taught or trained by an older woman in the church? What did you learn from her about loving your family or caring for your home?
2. What young women in the church have you been able to disciple in some way? What has that looked like?
3. How do you intend to seek to fulfill the calling of older or younger women in the church from this passage?

Next Week: MISSIONS CONFERENCE How Can We Pray Next Week?

Bryan Wintersteen: *Global Missions Pastor*
Rob Looper: *National Pastor*
Max Bunn: *Mobilization Pastor*
Joel Richards: *Director of International Outreach*
Ko Hamamatsu: *Japanese Community Pastor*
Shunghoon Shin: *Korean Community Pastor*
Luis Leon: *Hispanic Community Coordinator*
Courtney McGregor: *ESL and Friendship Partner Director*
Heather McDougall: *Global Ministry Administration*
Christi Bono: *National Ministry Administration*