

**Unpopular Opinion** March 26, 2023  
*Abundant Life in a Broken World*

***Introduce Jessica - How's the series so far?***

**John 14:6 AMP** Jesus said to him, “I am the only Way to God & the real Truth, & the real Life; no one comes to the Father but through Me.”

***God's Word is His perfect, ultimate, external authority; absolute Truth. God is who He is. He's not who you want Him to be.***

**2 Timothy 3:16 GNTD** All Scripture is inspired by God & is useful for teaching the truth, rebuking error, correcting faults, & giving instruction for right living,

***When we lose sight of God, we lose sight of Truth. Feelings, being nice & sweet, not offending becomes the priority. Tolerance becomes more important than error & falsity. Passive people allow evil to hurt people.***

**GOD'S VISION OF BIBLICAL WOMANHOOD**

*\*Where did you get your vision of a woman? Mom, Grandma, Fictional character, Instagram influencer, etc. Jessica*

**Genesis 1:27** God created human beings in His own image. In the image of God He created them; male and female He created them.

**Genesis 2:18** Then the Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.”

*Men & women are different. We're not the same. If we were the same, one of us wouldn't be necessary. Praise God, we're not the same! Embrace & enjoy your femininity! Appreciate your womaness.*

*I'm thankful for the women who have led, counseled, shaped, disciplined, corrected, empowered, taught, mentored, nurtured, instructed, etc. me over my life.*

***Your identity is in God. You're safe & secure. You're not an orphan, you're adopted by Jesus; His daughter. Stand w/ confidence.***

***You're strong, You're loved & called by your Father. You're precious to Him. You're significant. You're irreplaceable.***

### \*Jessica testimony

- 20- lead women's table. Don't like small talk, fingernail polish, body waxing.
- Any personality discussion 85% women, I am the 15%
- Isolating, struggled. Devil wants you to think that you are alone, unusual.
- What is important in being a woman? Look to the Bible. Proverbs

**Proverbs 31:10 AMP** An excellent woman, one who's spiritual, capable, intelligent, & virtuous, who is he who can find her? Her value is more precious than jewels & her worth is far above rubies *or* pearls.

**Picture of femininity in Proverbs 31-** Beauty & goodness contrasted w/ strength & fortitude which she uses to nurture people/things around her.

- This is a woman over her life, not just one season.
- Cultivating virtues- who she is, not just things she does. What she does flows out of who she is.

**Titus 2:3 AMP** Older women similarly are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor addicted to much wine, teaching what is right & good, 4 so that they may encourage the young women to tenderly love their husbands & their children, 5 to be sensible, pure, makers of a home where God is honored, good-natured, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.

**1. Live in a way that honors God.** *Appropriate, Godly behavior. Bring attention to Jesus, not to yourself through conduct or appearance. Your outward beauty is fleeting, fading, meaningless. Your value is in Jesus.*

**\*Jessica- Proverbs 31:30 AMP** Charm *and* grace are deceptive, and superficial beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the Lord reverently worshipping, obeying, serving, and trusting Him with awe-filled respect, she shall be praised.

- Fear of the Lord is the beginning of all wisdom. It has to be the basis of who we are.
- Beauty is fleeting. Beauty on the inside lasts.

**2. Speak the truth & build others up.** *Don't slander, gossip, or tell lies*

**\*Jessica- Ephesians 4:29 NIV** Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

- Be trustworthy, don't destroy relationships.
- Matthew 18 gives us clear instructions to deal with conflicts Biblically.

**3. Be sober & self-controlled.** *Don't be a heavy drinker, or addicted.*

**4. Teach others what is right, good, & beautiful.** *Give to others. Ladies deserve to be honored & respected. You're more valuable than rubies.*

*(vs 4)*

**5. Train, coach, mentor, & encourage younger women.** *Gently bringing younger women along; disciple them by watching you. Invest in future.*

**\*Jessica- Proverbs 31:26 AMP** She opens her mouth in skillful and godly wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue, giving counsel and instruction.

**\*Jessica- Story of Denise Llewellyn**

- Body of Christ- no other community such a range of people.

**6. Biblically love your husbands & your children.** *“Love is an act of the will, accompanied by emotion, that leads to action, on behalf of its object.” Loving your husband & raising godly children is one of the ways to fulfill God's purposes & is one of the highest callings in your life.*

**\*Jessica**

- God established families. It is his pattern, his norm.
- Why do you think satan has worked so hard to destroy families? There is something good, beautiful, healthy, strong and it is needed. Something noble and good in raising Godly offspring.
- Does something in you, does something in those children, does something for the world/community. Brings health.

**Proverbs 31:11 AMP** The heart of her husband **trusts** in her with secure confidence, And he will have no lack of gain. 12 She comforts, encourages, *and* does him only good and not evil all the days of her life.

(vs 5)

**7. Exemplify a life of wisdom & purity.** *Live wisely, w/ virtue. Character & integrity. Think clean. Pure. Holy .*

**8. Work in your home.** *Keep Godly household. A good homemaker. There's no priority that supersedes your home. As wives & mothers, you're absolutely committed to creating a haven.*

**\*Jessica- Proverbs 31:27** She looks well to how things go in her household, and does not eat the bread of idleness.

- We see her working outside of the home, but keeping the priority there.

**9. Good natured & kind.** *Compassionate. Sensitive. Hopeful. Smile.*

**10. Be submissive to & seek agreement w/ your husband.**

**\*Jessica – Trust**

- Trust- As we approach this, we need to remember that God is our father. He has given us directions for living, not to stop us from enjoying life but to help us live a full life, to help us flourish.
- We don't need to approach this topic ready to fight, but with trust in our loving father that he has a good plan for our lives as women. This attitude of the world that we are vigilant to make sure no one is going to hold me down, oppress me, control me, or the attitude of us against them.
- Is that really a Christian position or attitude? He calls us to walk in peace. I need to know who I am in Christ and then I can quietly go along in his strength and peace, trusting my heavenly father to fight my battles.

*Resist feminist, secular, humanistic teachings. Seek mutual agreement. Women, by nature resist submission as a result of the fall. (Gen. 3:16 - the parallel Hebrew construction in Gen. 4:7). Sin corrupted both the willing submission of the wife & the loving headship of the husband.*

**\*\*PERSONAL TESTIMONY**