

Are We There Yet?

Part 5

“God’s Design for Women”

Review: A road trip to the right destination

- Broken down on the wrong road
- Two separate cars
- The right direction and destination but hating everyone in the car by the time you get there.

A battle from the beginning

Genesis 3:16 (NIV)

To the woman he said, “I will greatly increase your pains in childbearing; with pain you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”

Or

Ephesians 5:21 (NLT)

And further, submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Today’s Text

1 Peter 3:1-10 (NLT)

In the same way, you wives must accept the authority of your husbands. Then, even if some refuse to obey the Good News, your godly lives will speak to them without any words. They will be won over ²by observing your pure and reverent lives. ³Don’t be concerned about the outward beauty of fancy hairstyles, expensive jewelry, or beautiful clothes. ⁴You should clothe yourselves instead with the beauty that comes from within, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is so precious to God. ⁵This is how the holy women of old made themselves beautiful. They trusted God and accepted the authority of their husbands. ⁶For instance, Sarah obeyed her husband, Abraham, and called him her master. You are her daughters when you do what is right without fear of what your husbands might do. ⁷In the same way, you husbands must give honor to your wives. Treat your wife with understanding as you live together. She may be weaker than you are, but she is your equal partner in God’s gift of new life. Treat her as you should so your prayers will not be hindered. ⁸Finally, all of you should be of one mind. Sympathize with each other. Love each other as brothers and sisters. Be tenderhearted, and keep a humble attitude. ⁹Don’t repay evil for evil. Don’t retaliate with insults when people insult you. Instead, pay them back with a blessing. That is what God has called you to do, and he will bless you for it. ¹⁰For the Scriptures say, “If you want to enjoy life and see many happy days, keep your tongue from speaking evil and your lips from telling lies.

Men, remember:

- You are to love your wife unconditionally and sacrificially (Ephesians 5:25-29)
- You are to honor or respect her
- You are to understand her
- Or else...

Women, you have choices too

Proverbs 14:1 (NLT)

A wise woman builds her home, but a foolish woman tears it down with her own hands.

As I listened to these women I noticed several things:

- 1st They accept their role because they believe God's Word is true and they know God is a good God.**
- 2nd They talk about trust vs. fear. They choose to trust God.**
- 3rd Their husbands are not perfect so they struggle at times.
They make mistakes, but get right back up and seek reconciliation with their husbands.**
- 4th They get wise council from other Godly women and read Christian books
instead of taking advice from the world.**
- 5th They acknowledge that their success or failure stems from their own walk with God.**

Proverbs 31:10-13 (NLT)

Who can find a virtuous and capable wife? She is more precious than rubies. Her husband can trust her, and she will greatly enrich his life. She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life. She finds wool and flax and busily spins it.

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