

w/b 6th March 2016 – Mothers Day

THEME: A WOMAN OF NOBLE CHARACTER - LIFE APPLICATION

PROVERBS 31 vs 10-30 (also worth reading in the Message)

LAUNCH

Describe a woman of significance in your life whom you respected. What made them noble?

DISCOVERY & UNDERSTANDING

1. When many women read this proverb they often feel that they will never measure up to this woman. She seems far above any kind of obtainable reality.

If this is the case what is the point of the proverb or is it just there to make women feel guilty?

2. For those of you with children have you had a serious chat with them about what to look for in a spouse? What qualities would you look for in a spouse for your child?

Is your list of qualities the same as Proverbs 31 10-30. What is similar and what is different?

3. A woman of noble character is a woman who demonstrates her noble character through her loyalty (verse 11-12). She is loyal to her husband. Describe loyalty. What does it look like to you? Why is it an important quality in a person/marriage?

4. In Proverbs 31:13-19 we read that the woman of noble character is a willing worker.

How would you describe your attitude towards work ?

Are you a willing worker? What should motivate us in our work?

5. In Proverbs 31:20-22 we read of the noble woman's love for others and verses 23-27 speaks of her light - the light of her character shines brightly upon her husband who is respected by others because of her. What behaviour can we slip into that might cause respect for our spouses to be undermined? What kind of things can we do for our spouses so that they are held in greater esteem?

6. In verse 30 we read that this woman's whole life is given over to God.

"Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised."

What does it mean to fear God? How do we develop a healthy fear of God in our Christian lives and what types of fear do we seek to avoid?

APPLICATION

Go round the group (including the men) and ask which quality of the noble woman you would like in greater measure. Spend time praying for each person regarding that quality.

Ref: Bible study lesson plans Proverbs 31, SCBC (Chinese Baptist Church) study which was outstanding, CEP bookstore Proverbs 31 study. Some questions have been amended.