The Example of Godly Women

Proverbs 31:30

Thesis: To discuss the important roles and influence Godly women have in our lives.

1. Mother’s Day is a very unique holiday. It is the one day in America we stop to honor and recognize mothers. The role of the mother is of vital importance, without mothers none of us would be here. Mother’s often wear many hats, cook, maid, sweetheart, employee, playmate, family organizer, nurse, etc. . . and still never expect any recognition in return. So often their roles are taken for granted and the gratitude we owe them is overlooked.

2. It has been said, “The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world.” This is true for many reasons but today I want us to think about the influence of godly women.
   A. Where would the church be today if it were not for the influence of godly Christian women?
   B. Many men, would not be Christians if it were not for the encouragement and example of their wife and/or mother.
   C. For others, they would not be as faithful as they are, if it were not for the encouragement of their wife and/or mother.
   D. Yet, in many cases, they are not given the respect and honor that they so rightly deserve.

3. Let’s take some time to look at biblical examples of women who truly are to be praised because they feared the Lord. As we look at these women, let us examine the valuable lessons to be learned from them and their examples.

4. God reveals some marvelous examples of how women saw and used their roles in a positive way. These women can and should become the pattern for our ladies today.

I. Godly Women of Supplication.
   A. Godly women prayed in the early church.
      1. The apostles were gathered together after the Lord’s ascension awaiting the coming of the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:12-14).
         a. These important men were not alone.
      2. Godly women also gathered together praying for Peter’s release (Acts12:5-13).
         a. The church gathered in the house of Mary the mother of John Mark.
         b. The prayers of these women were of great importance.
B. Hannah prayed for a child (1 Sam. 1:9-13).
   1. She was upset because she was barren. She turned to God for help (vs.10-11).
      a. She promised to give her son back to God in service to Him.
      b. Her prayer was answered (1 Sam. 1:19,24).
   2. Notice that Hannah's lips moved, but her voice was not heard. Her prayer was silent.
      a. God desires men to lead in worship (1 Tim. 2:8).
      b. When we lead in worship, there are dozens of women praying along with us and for us.
      c. Although their voices are not heard publically, their prayers are just as important and God hears them.

C. Godly women pray for their families.
   1. When godly women pray for their husbands and their children they are filling an important role within the church and the home.
   2. We need more women today who will take the time to pray for their family and especially for those loved ones we know who are lost.
   3. Women, never forget or underestimate the power and importance your prayers.

II. Godly Women of Service.
   A. Tabitha was a servant (Acts 9:36-39).
      1. Tabitha (Dorcas) was constantly caring about others.
         a. When there was a need she was there doing what she could.
         b. One specialty was making coats and garments for those in need (vs.39).
      2. Upon her death the fact she was loved so dearly by all those in the church and those she helped was evident.
      3. We need more women today, who will serve the Lord by serving others. What a marvelous example this Christian woman reveals to us.

   B. The godly servant is described.
      1. Women who today, just like in the Bible, fill their hands with service, fill a great role within the church (Prov. 31:20).
         a. The service might seem insignificant to you (i.e. providing a meal, baking a cake, sending a card, etc. . .) but it means a lot to those who are being served.
      2. Women are also to serve as an example to others (Tit. 2:4-5).
         a. This is a much needed role in world today.
III. Godly Women Who Share.

A. Lydia shared with others (Acts 16:11-15).
   1. Paul first met Lydia in Philippi as she gathered together with other women to pray and worship God (vs. 13-14).
      a. Paul preaches the gospel to them resulting in Lydia’s baptism.
      b. Soon after she begs them to stay with her in her house for a while.
   2. Notice the hospitality which characterized her life, she was willing to share with others.
   3. Godly women are always women who are willing to share with others.

   1. In this familiar story Martha is busy preparing the food while Mary is listening to Jesus and not helping.
   2. We must not overlook this was Martha’s house. She was willing to invite Jesus into her home and share a meal with Him.
      a. Martha served the Lord by sharing.
   3. How wonderful it is when Christian women share their homes and show their hospitality.

IV. Godly Women Who Study.

   1. When Paul first met Timothy, he is said to have had a good reputation among the brethren.
      a. But how did Timothy get this reputation?
      b. Timothy’s personal dedication to Christ was part of it.
   2. We cannot forget the role of his mother and grandmother (2 Tim. 1:5).
      a. Timothy was the product of a godly mother who studied and taught her child the truth of God's word (2 Tim. 3:15).
      b. If there were ever a time to teach our children the scriptures it is now.

B. Women who study have a far reaching influence.
   1. We have already seen the influence of Timothy’s mother and grandmother because of their study.
   2. Women who study influence by what they say (Prov. 31:26).
      a. If you do not know what God’s word says then you will be able to open your mouth with true wisdom.
      b. As long as she opens her mouth with wisdom and not slander or gossip, her influence will be great (Col. 4:6).
   3. Women who study influence the home (1 Tim. 3:4).
a. This qualification applies directly to the men. But we must never think he is alone in this.
b. How much is said about godly elders whose wives work hard to help him manage the house and the kids?
c. When a man has a house that is ruled well and children who listen, look closely and you will see a godly woman working hard right there with him.

V. Godly Women Who Support.

A. Priscilla supported her husband (Acts 18).
   1. We are introduced to Priscilla and her husband Aquila when they meet Paul in Corinth (vs. 2).
      a. Priscilla is always mentioned with her husband.
      b. They worked the same trade together (vs. 3).
   2. She faithfully supported her husband in his work.
      a. How many of us have wives who stand by our side in our work?
      b. How thankful we should be for that wonderful helper God has given us.
      c. That is exactly what God created women for, to help and support their husbands (Gen. 2:18).

B. Priscilla supported her husband in teaching the gospel.
   1. Her support of her husband’s work went beyond their trade. She was right there with him teaching the gospel to others.
   2. A promising young man named Apollos is found teaching in the Synagogue (vs. 24-26).
      a. He is teaching about Christ, yet he does not know all the facts.
      b. Priscilla and Aquila together take him aside privately and teach him the truth (vs.26).
   3. Although women are not allowed to publically teach or preach (1 Cor. 14; 1 Tim. 2) we still need more women like Priscilla.
      a. A woman can and should share her understanding of God's word with those who are lost, just not in the assembly.

Conclusion:
1. As we read the Bible it is so easy to remember the great men presented in its pages, but let us not overlook the great and godly women that are mentioned by God too and how they served the Lord.
2. We can learn a lot (both men and women) from the examples of godly women in the Bible.  
   A. A godly woman is a woman of supplication/ prayer.  B. A woman who serves.  

3. If we will only take the time to emphasize these traits and encourage those women who are 
   fulfilling them, then our women truly be fulfilling their God given roles just as He intended.