

## Message Discussion Guide

### THE GOSPEL AND WOMANHOOD

---

*The Church at Brook Hills . Dr. David Platt . May 11, Titus 2:3-5*

This guide is to help you facilitate discussion with your Small Group. Use it as a resource to lead your group in discovering and owning the truths of God's Word. There may be questions you do not want to use and there may be instances where you just want to focus on a particular point or truth. Some questions may bring out emotions and cause people to dwell on their relationship with God. Your role is to facilitate this experience not to complete the discussion guide. Use this as a flexible teaching tool not a rigid teaching task list.

### **Connect . . .**

*Use one or both of the following options to introduce the discussion time to follow.*

#### **Option 1**

David read a quote that states, "When godly Christian women do not infuse the younger generation with the things of God, the church comes to dire straits."

- Have you experienced the mentoring relationship with an older woman (or man--for men)? If yes, how has that relationship affected your life?
- Have you ever wished for the instruction of an older woman (or man—for men) in your life?
- How would your generation be changed if an older generation led you in living godly lives?
- How can a church's effectiveness be diminished by neglecting mentor-type relationships?

#### **Option 2**

David stated that "biblical womanhood - like biblical manhood - is radically God-centered. The purpose of biblical womanhood is not for cultural convenience or personal preference."

- What conflicting views of womanhood do we see in today's society?
- What conflicting views of womanhood do we see in the church?
- Can the role of a woman affect one's view of the gospel? How?
- How do cultural and personal preferences weigh on our view of biblical womanhood? Should they?

### **Review the Message . . .**

#### **A Couple of Reminders . . .**

- **The Word is the preacher's only source of authority.**
  - The preacher's authority is not personal.
  - The preacher's authority is not organizational.
  - The preacher's authority is not intellectual.
  - The preacher's authority is not psychological.
  - The preacher's authority is not experiential.

## Message Discussion Guide

### THE GOSPEL AND WOMANHOOD

---

*The Church at Brook Hills . Dr. David Platt . May 11, Titus 2:3-5*

- **The preacher's authority is only biblical.**
- **The Word is the preacher's ultimate source of accountability.**
  - **The preacher is accountable before God to proclaim the Word.**
  - **The preacher is accountable before God to live the Word.**

#### Discussion Questions

- Enlist someone to read Titus 2:11-15.
- According to verses 11 and 14, how do people receive salvation?
- Looking at verses 12 and 14, what would this salvation do for followers of Christ? (*instruct and purify*)
- Based on the questions that we have just answered, what, then, is the source for instruction on godly living and purity?
- Why is this source the only authority on godly living?

#### Application . . .

- To where or to whom do we most often turn to get instruction for godly living?
- Are all of these places of instruction bad, in and of themselves?
- Then, what is the danger of allowing our own sources of instruction to be authoritative?
- Read Titus 2:7-8. What happens to the purity of the gospel when we allow ourselves to proclaim doctrine that is not biblically sound? What effect can this have on others?

#### The Gospel is the Foundation for Biblical Womanhood . . .

- **God's grace covers our past.**
- **God's grace empowers our present.**
- **God's grace guarantees our future.**

#### Discussion Questions

- Invite someone to read Titus 2:11-14.
- According to these verses, what did the grace of God do in the past? What does the grace of God do in the present? What does the grace of God promise in the future?
- These verses indicate that God's grace through the gospel encapsulates the entire life of a Christ follower. How does verse 14 indicate that this grace provides the foundation upon which a follower of Christ lives?

#### Application . . .

- If God's grace brings salvation, instruction in godliness, and hope in Christ's return should it reflect how we live? Why? How?
- How would recognizing that our foundation is the gospel affect how we think about the purpose of our lives?

## Message Discussion Guide

### THE GOSPEL AND WOMANHOOD

---

*The Church at Brook Hills . Dr. David Platt . May 11, Titus 2:3-5*

- How can our recognition of his grace encourage in past struggles in our lives?

#### **The Gospel is the Purpose of Biblical Womanhood . . .**

- **The purpose of biblical womanhood is NOT . . .**
  - **For cultural convenience.**
  - **For personal preference.**
- **The purpose of biblical womanhood IS . . .**
  - **To show the beauty of Christ.**
  - **To advance the mission of Christ.**

#### **Discussion Questions**

- Enlist 3 volunteers to read one verse each from Titus 2: 5, 8, 10.
- Emphasize the phrase “so that,” which appears in each verse. What is the purpose that is named after each “so that?”
- What is the significance of each instruction having a purpose following it?
- What implication does this have on God’s instructions for living within His design?
- Read Verse 5 again. What is the ultimate purpose for obeying God’s instructions for biblical womanhood?

#### **Application . . .**

- How do God’s instructions for living as a godly woman (or man) indicate His intentionality in creating different genders?
- How can our acknowledgment of this intentionality affect the way that we view biblical womanhood?
- Verse 5 indicates that women advance the gospel of Christ by living as a godly woman. What value does this role give women as unique creations of God?
- How does a woman show the beauty of Christ through biblical womanhood?
- How does a refusal to accept biblical womanhood affect the gospel? Our relationship with Christ?

#### **The Gospel and Older Women . . .**

- **Be holy.**
- **Build up the body of Christ.**
- **Make disciples.**

#### **Discussion Questions**

- Encourage a volunteer to read Titus 2:3-4a.
- How does God instruct the older women to live in Verse 3?
- What is the relationship between the older women’s behavior and the encouragement to teach younger women?

## Message Discussion Guide THE GOSPEL AND WOMANHOOD

---

*The Church at Brook Hills . Dr. David Platt . May 11, Titus 2:3-5*

- What is the purpose of older women teaching younger women?

### **Application . . .**

- David humorously admitted that loving one's husband and children is not always easy and requires training. How could the encouragement and gentle teaching of a respected woman help a newlywed or young mother to learn how to be a wife and mother?
- What is at stake when we neglect teaching younger women (& men) in the body of Christ?
- How are we neglecting our calling to advance the gospel by not teaching or mentoring younger generations?
- How can we connect older and younger women in our church?

### **The Gospel and Younger Women . . .**

- **Love your husband.**
  - This love requires great determination.
  - This love brings great delight.
- **Love your children.**
  - This love involves deep demands.
  - This love brings great delight.
- **Discipline yourself.**
  - Guard your heart.
  - Guard your mind.
  - Guard your body.
  - Guard your will.
- **Be faithful to God and to your husband.**
  - Flee immorality.
  - Embrace purity.
- **Care for your home.**
  - You have a God-entrusted responsibility . . .
  - To create a God-centered home.
- **Serve with kindness.**
  - Desire the good of others.
  - Work for the good of others.
- **Submit to your husband.**

### **Discussion Questions**

## Message Discussion Guide

### THE GOSPEL AND WOMANHOOD

---

*The Church at Brook Hills . Dr. David Platt . May 11, Titus 2:3-5*

- Read Titus 2:4-5.
- Invite learners to name the different instructions given to younger women.
- Emphasize the entire “so that . . .” phrase in verse 5. Why is this description of biblical womanhood important?
- How does each of these instructions affect how others view the Word of God?

#### ***Application . . .***

- Are any of these instructions easy in marriage? How much harder are they in a marriage characterized by disrespect, criticism, poor communication, and a willingness to fight?
- How would a mentoring relationship help a woman to live by these standards?
- David boldly stated that a wife is first called to be a helper for her husband, not a mother to her children. How can a reversal of these priorities affect our marital relationships? Our relationships with our children?
- Have we, in the church, created false instructions on biblical womanhood? How? In what ways?
- How do we cheapen womanhood by shirking or de-valuing a woman’s role in society and in the home?

#### ***In Our Personal Lives***

David stated that no woman is up to the task presented in this passage of Scripture without the grace of God. In beginning to allow the grace of God to make us more like Christ, David encouraged each woman to begin to evaluate one area of her life at a time.

Looking at one or two of these areas at a time, what is a specific area that you need God’s grace to take control and transform your heart?