Women of Noble Character - Mother's Day 2017

Pro 31:10-31

She is at first described as a woman of character

- 10 A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies.
- 25 She is clothed with **strength** and **dignity**; she can laugh at the days to come.
- 26 She speaks with **wisdom**, and **faithful instruction** is on her tongue.

In the end she holds to eternal values

• 29 "Many women do noble things, but <u>you surpass them all</u>." 30 Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but **a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised**.

Many benefit from her life

Her husband receives the benefit of her life

- 11 **Her husband has full confidence in her** and lacks nothing of value. 12 She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life.
- 23 Her **husband** is **respected** at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land.

She takes care of her family and household

- 21 When it snows, she has no fear for her **household**; for all of them are clothed in scarlet. 22 She makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in fine linen and purple.
- 15 She gets up while it is still night; she provides food for her **family** and portions for her **female servants**.
- 27 She watches over the affairs of her **household** and does not eat the bread of idleness.

She works hard

- 13 She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands. 14 She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar. 16 She considers a field and buys it; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard. 17 She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks. 18 She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night. 19 In her hand she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers.
- 24 She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies the merchants with sashes.

She reaches out to the poor and needy

• 20 She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy.

Her works praise her and the people she has touched tell the story of her life

- 28 Her children arise and call her blessed;
- her husband also, and he praises her:
- 31 **Honor** her for all that her **hands** have done, and **let her works bring her praise** at the city gate.

The Amazing Ministry of Women

Lydia - led her household to follow her in the ways of the LORD - Act 16:13-15

Timothy's mom (Eunice) and grandma (Lois) had sincere faith and that faith now lives in Timothy- 2Ti 1:5 NIV

Priscilla - 1:1 discipleship with her husband, they explained to Apollos the way of God more adequately. **hospitality - hosted a church in her home -** Act 18:24-28

Nympha - hosted a church in her home - Col 4:15

Teachers, mentors, older women to younger women

Tit 2:3-5 NIV ...teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, <u>but to teach what is good</u>.
 Then they can urge the younger women to <u>love their husbands and children</u>,
 to be <u>self-controlled and pure</u>, to be <u>busy at home</u>, to be <u>kind</u>, and to be <u>subject to their husbands</u>, <u>so that no one will malign the word of God</u>.

Women workers of all kinds

• Rom 16:3-15 NIV Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my co-workers in Christ Jesus. 4 They risked their lives for me. Not only I but all the churches of the Gentiles are grateful to them. 5 Greet also the church that meets at their house. Greet my dear friend Epenetus, who was the first convert to Christ in the province of Asia. Greet Mary, who worked very hard for you. 7 Greet Andronicus and Junia, my fellow Jews who have been in prison with me. They are outstanding among the apostles, and they were in Christ before I was. 8 Greet Ampliatus, my dear friend in the Lord. 9 Greet Urbanus, our co-worker in Christ, and my dear friend Stachys. 10 Greet Apelles, whose fidelity to Christ has stood the test. Greet those who belong to the household of Aristobulus. 11 Greet Herodion, my fellow Jew. Greet those in the household of Narcissus who are in the Lord. 12 Greet Tryphena and Tryphosa, those women who work hard in the Lord. Greet my dear friend Persis, another woman who has worked very hard in the Lord. 13 Greet Rufus, chosen in the Lord, and his mother, who has been a mother to me, too. 14 Greet Asyncritus, Phlegon, Hermes, Patrobas, Hermas and the other brothers and sisters with them. 15 Greet Philologus, Julia, Nereus and his sister, and Olympas and all the Lord's people who are with them.

Tabitha / Dorcas -raised from the dead

- Act 9:36-42 NIV
 - there was a disciple named Tabitha (in Greek her name is Dorcas); she was always doing good and helping the poor.
 - All the widows stood around him, crying and showing him the robes and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was still with them.
 - He took her by the hand and helped her to her feet. Then he called for the believers,
 especially the widows, and presented her to them alive

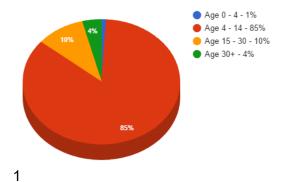
Opportunities

Help for widows

1Ti 5:9-10 NIV 9 No widow may be put on the list of widows unless she is over sixty, has been faithful to her husband, 10 and is well known for her good deeds, such as bringing up children, showing hospitality, washing the feet of the Lord's people, helping those in trouble and devoting herself to all kinds of good deeds.

4/14 Window = Sunday School, SHINE, VBS, Youth Group

Age When People Surveyed Said They Got Saved



Ministry to single parents

Current Alliance, Ohio Population, Demographics and stats in 2016, 2017

Homes in Alliance with people under 18

Female led with no husband present: 1,003

Male householder, no wife present: 294

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¹ https://home.snu.edu/~hculbert/ages.htm https://suburbanstats.org/population/ohio/how-many-people-live-in-alliance