

SMALL GROUP GROWTH GUIDE

May 8, 2022

BIG IDEA: God has purposed or designed women for specific roles that are unique to her and when understood, believed, and lived, God's word will be commended to all and women will find true fulfillment.

BELONG

The current 21st century American cultural forces at work can no longer clearly define what a woman is. Therefore, it would seem that a reasonable question to ask before asking for a definition is what did God create women for? But even that question is biased in that God exists, God created and therefore He has specific purposes for both men and women. Talk about how God defines women then how the world defines a woman and what purposes they are to accomplish respectively?

Based on your descriptions which bias do you believe is most fulfilling to a woman and why?

GROW

1. Take the time to read the following Scripture. What descriptive picture can you draw from these texts about the purposes of a woman? Genesis 1:28, 2:18-20, Proverbs 31:10-31, 1 Corinthians 11:1-2, Titus 2:3-5. Are there other character studies you've done such as Ruth, Esther, Hannah, Jezebel, Mary that can clarify that picture?
2. What do you believe are the biblical roles or purposes for a woman?
3. The error that the world says is that women are "self-sovereign", that they can stand alone. A feminist saying "women need a man like a fish needs a bicycle" makes this point. All of which comes from Genesis 3:16.
4. Discuss the following statements as it relates to God's curse. First, it's pure rebellion against God. Not being satisfied with what God has given i.e. being a woman or a man. Always wanting more or something other than what we have or are. Not being satisfied in the relationship with God in his created purposes, how they were to function, and what he provides, and therefore trusting that he will satisfy our every need. Second, could an extension be in trying to find identity and meaning in our children, our work, a hobby, or something else rather than in who God is?
5. The error many Christians make is looking at 1 Corinthians 11:1-12 and thinking since the woman is not the head, she is somehow lesser, inferior. Is that a pretty typical thought do you think? If so why? If not what is the thought and where does it come from?
6. Humanity is made in the image of God, the God of Scripture. God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit, one being in three unique persons. What they embody is unity and oneness. What is necessary for that oneness to be on display between a husband and wife? What do we put in the way of obtaining that? Why?
7. Sunday's message gave four purposes God has designed women for.

Subduing or work. Filling or children/creating life. Helper or divine assistance. Glory or intensity which only comes through submission. What questions or thoughts come as you process those?

REACH

Proverbs 14:1. How has this happened to our culture? If that's true then the opposite is also true. How can women restore, redeem, and build up what has been torn down? Zechariah 4:10. God has called Christians to take dominion over the earth now with the gospel. How can we see such a huge task and not be dissatisfied in doing small things? Are you up for the task?