

# What is a *Biblical* Woman?

Rochester, MN

## What is biblical Womanhood?

Living out and expressing my faith through my God-given gender as a woman, allowing the Bible to define me in every aspect of my life as a woman

## God's design of a woman:

*Genesis 2:7 Then Lord God formed the man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.*

*Genesis 2:18-23 The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him." Now the Lord God had formed out of the ground all the beasts of the field and all the birds of the air. He brought them to the man to see what he would name them; and whatever the man called each living creature, that was its name. So the man gave names to all the livestock, the birds of the air and all the beasts of the field. But for Adam no suitable helper was found. So the Lord God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep; and while he was sleeping, he took one of the man's ribs and closed up the place with flesh. Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man. The man said, "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called 'woman,' for she was taken out of man.*

God created all of mankind.

He determined that there would be two genders, male and female.

He assigned each person to live in one of the two genders.

Four significant biblical aspects in God's creation of a woman:

Relationship:

Genesis 2:18 It is not good for the man to be alone.

Helper:

Genesis 2:18 *The Lord God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper suitable for him."*

Completer:

Of the full image of God:

Genesis 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God, He created him; male and female he created them.

Of man:

1 Corinthians 11:8-9 For man did not come from woman, but woman from man; neither was man created for woman, but woman for man.

Bringer of life:

Genesis 1:27 So God created man in his own image, in the image of God, He created him; male and female he created them.

Genesis 3:20 "Adam named his wife Eve, because she would become the mother of all the living."

God's heart about His creation of woman:

*Genesis 2:22 Then the Lord God made a woman from the rib he had taken out of the man, and he brought her to the man.*

His ta da! moment

Genesis 1:31 God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.

His very good moment

Truths to carefully meditate on:

God intentionally designed you.

Your womanhood is an expression of beautiful aspects of God Himself.

His design of you, as a person, in every way, reflects Him, made in His image.

God's will for your life is fulfilled and expressed as a woman.

You were NOT created gender-neutral.

God appointed you to express your faith as a woman.

Your femininity is fully expressed in God's will for your life.

He does not call you to:

to express these things as a man,  
or as a gender-neutral person  
But as a woman

*Psalms 139:13-16 NIV*

*For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well. My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when was woven together in the depths of the earth. Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be*

God is unapologetic that He made you a woman.

When God designed you to be female,  
He was completely pouring out His pure love for you personally.  
He was completely overflowing with good for you.  
He did it with purpose for you, knowing all that He had for your life.

He honors and values you - as His child, as a woman.

Ask yourself: What do I think/believe

God's specific calling on women:

We are created with significance and purpose.

The calling of *all* believers, male and female:

*A sampling:*

Mark 12:29-31 "The most important one," answered Jesus, "is this: 'Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.' The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."

Luke 9:23-25

Then he said to them all: "If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will save it. What

good is it for a man to gain the whole world, and yet lose or forfeit his very self?

The unique calling of a woman, verses that are written specifically to and about women.

*A sampling:*

Wifehood

[ 1 Peter 3:5; 1 Timothy 5:9; Colossians 3:18; Ephesians 5:22-24; Ephesians 5:33]

Motherhood

[Titus 2:4; 1 Timothy 5:; Proverbs 31:26; Proverbs 12:; Psalm 127:3]

Good deeds

[Matthew 8:14-15; Luke 8:1-3; Acts 9:36; Acts 18:26; Titus 2:5; Titus 2:3; 1 Timothy 2:9-10; 1 Timothy 5:9-10; 1 Timothy 5:16;; Proverbs 31:12 ; Proverbs 31:15; Proverbs 31:16; Proverbs 31:20; Proverbs 31:24]

Inner beauty

[Titus 2:5; Titus 2:3; 1 Peter 3:2; 1 Peter 3:6; 1 Timothy 2:11; 1 Timothy 3:11-12]

[refer to handout]

Biblical womanhood is played out, lived out, regardless of what roles you are in. It doesn't flow from our roles, our circumstances, our settings.

What is the common thread within all of these four categories? Her heart

Biblical womanhood comes from the heart of a woman.

A snapshot of a biblical woman's character: [refer to handout]

*A sample of one particular aspect of a biblical woman's character:*

Inner beauty as described in 1 Peter 3:3-6

1 Peter 3:3-6 Your beauty should not merely come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the

unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful. They were submissive to their own husbands, like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.

Inner beauty is not written about men.

The unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit:

Possible for every single women,

Possible for every single personality type

Your unfading beauty is a gift.

It is an outward display of what is going on in your heart.

Two different pursuits:

Ask yourself: Jesus says \_\_\_\_\_. Do I believe this is true? True for me?

Keep feeding this perspective; this is not a one-time deal, you need to nourish and feed these truths in your soul.

**Good Deeds - A Snapshot**  
[Verses written specifically  
about women or to women]

Acts 9:36 In Joppa there was a disciple named Tabitha (which, when translated, is Dorcas ), who was always doing good and helping the poor. Titus 2:3 Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good.

Acts 18:26 He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately.

Titus 2:4-5 Then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.

1 Timothy 2:9-10 I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God.

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

1 Timothy 5:16 If any woman who is a believer has widows in her family, she should help them and not let the church be burdened with them, so that the church can help those widows who are really in need.

Proverbs 31:15 She gets up while it is still night; she provides food for her family and portions for her female servants.

Proverbs 31:20 She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy.

Proverbs 31:24 She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies the merchants with sashes.

Luke 8:1-3 After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, and also some women who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: Mary (called Magdalene) from whom seven demons had come out; Joanna the wife of Chuza, the manager of Herod's household; Susanna; and many others. These women were helping to support them out of their own means.

**Character/Inner Beauty - A Snapshot**  
[Verses written specifically about women or to women]

Noble character

Proverbs 31:10 A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies.

Temperate

1 Timothy 3:11 In the same way, their wives are to be women worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything.

Trustworthy in everything

1 Timothy 3:11 In the same way, their wives are to be women worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything.

Reverent in the way she lives

Titus 2:3 Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good.

Self-controlled and pure

Titus 2:4-5 Then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.

Purity and reverence in her behavior

1 Peter 3:1-2 Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, when they see the purity and reverence of your lives.

Speaks with wisdom and faithful instruction is on her tongue

Proverbs 31:25-26 She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue.

Does what is right and does not give way to fear

1 Peter 3:5-6 For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful. They were submissive to their own husbands, like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.

Put her hope in God

1 Peter 3:5-6 For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful. They were submissive to their own husbands, like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.