

# Proverbs 31

Proverbs 31:10 An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels. <sup>11</sup>The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain. 12She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life. <sup>13</sup>She seeks wool and flax, and works with willing hands. <sup>14</sup>She is like the ships of the merchant; she brings her food from afar. <sup>15</sup>She rises while it is yet night and provides food for her household and portions for her maidens. <sup>16</sup>She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard. <sup>17</sup>She dresses herself with strength and makes her arms strong. <sup>18</sup>She perceives that her merchandise is profitable. Her lamp does not go out at night. 19She puts her hands to the distaff, and her hands hold the spindle. <sup>20</sup>She opens her hand to the poor and reaches out her hands to the needy. <sup>21</sup>She is not afraid of snow for her household. for all her household are clothed in scarlet. <sup>22</sup>She makes bed coverings for herself; her clothing is fine linen and purple. <sup>23</sup>Her husband is known in the gates when he sits among the elders of the land. <sup>24</sup>She makes linen garments and sells them; she delivers sashes to the merchant. <sup>25</sup>Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come. <sup>26</sup>She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. <sup>27</sup>She looks well to the ways of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. <sup>28</sup>Her children rise up and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: <sup>29</sup>"Many women have done excellently, but you surpass them all." <sup>30</sup>Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. <sup>31</sup>Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates.

### THE SEARCH FOR A PRAISEWORTHY WOMAN

<u>Proverbs 31:10</u> An excellent wife who can find? She is far more precious than jewels.

- She is excellent in every sense of the word
- Such a woman is extremely rare
- She is priceless
- This type of woman is the one to pursue
- She is praiseworthy!

## THE PORTRAITS OF THE PRAISEWORTHY WOMAN

1. The Praiseworthy Woman is a \_\_\_\_\_\_ wife who has the complete confidence of her husband

<u>31:11</u> The heart of her husband trusts in her, and he will have no lack of gain.  $^{12}$ She does him good, and not harm, all the days of her life.

2. The Praiseworthy Woman is an enterprising homemaker who uses her creativity to \_\_\_\_\_\_ her family and others

<u>31:15</u> She rises while it is yet night and provides food for her household and portions for her maidens.

**3.** The Praiseworthy Woman is not \_\_\_\_\_\_ about the future <u>31:25</u> Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come.

**4.** The Praiseworthy Woman is a godly lady who \_\_\_\_\_ God supremely <u>31:30</u> Charm is deceitful, and beauty is vain, but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.

### To Fear God is to...

A. Hate evil

<u>Proverbs 3:7</u> Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.

B. Refuse to envy sinners

<u>Proverbs 23:17</u> Let not your heart envy sinners, but continue in the fear of the LORD all the day.

C. Walk in transparent uprightness

<u>Proverbs 14:2</u> Whoever walks in uprightness fears the LORD, but he who is devious in his ways despises him.

D. Keep your heart soft towards God.

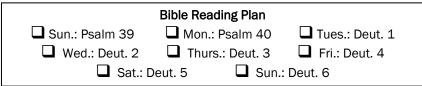
<u>Proverbs 28:14</u> Blessed is the one who fears the LORD always, but whoever hardens his heart will fall into calamity.

E. Stay humble

<u>Proverbs 15:33</u> The fear of the LORD is instruction in wisdom, and humility comes before honor.

F. Know the Holy One

<u>Proverbs 9:10</u> The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.



Steve Benninger, Lead Pastor New Life Church, Gahanna/May 8 & 9, 2010



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