

**Title:** Women of virtue  
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The Proverbs 31 woman...

## What is a virtuous woman?

A woman of valour in the sense of all forms of excellence

**Valour** = courage in the face of danger, especially in battle

**Excellence** = the quality of being extremely good or outstanding

**My own definition:** A virtuous woman is not your average woman, not acting like everyone around her, but operating on a different level of excellence on the battlefield, not necessarily winning every battle, but winning the war.

In relationships we can win battles eg. arguments, but we can lose the war, lose the person's heart

## WHAT ARE THE WEAPONS A VIRTUOUS WOMAN?

### Proverbs 31:25-26

Strength and honour are her **clothing**; she shall rejoice in time to come.

She opens her mouth with wisdom, and on her tongue is the law of kindness.

### 1. **Strength – we need to put it on, a decision we make**

a place of security in God where not storm or crisis will move you

### Psalm 62:5

My soul, wait silently for God alone, for my expectation is from Him.

A woman of virtue put her expectation on God.

Often we have a big black hole and we expect men (boyfriend, fiancé, husband) to fill it. They can't. A virtuous woman is a wise person who primarily goes to God for physical, emotional and spiritual needs.

### 2. **Honour – we need to put it on – a decision we make**

#### Ephesians 5:33(AMP)

...let the wife see that she respects and reverences her husband (*that she notices him, regards him, honours him, prefers him, venerates, and esteems him; and that she defers to him, praises him, and loves and admires him exceedingly*)

#### as a married woman

- stop trying to change the man in your life and trust the Lord to do the work
- respect the man in your life unconditionally, taking the risk and trusting the Lord for the outcome, treat him like a king even if he does not act as a king
- don't treat him like a child, even if he acts like a child –
- stop being your husband's teacher, mother and "holy spirit"
- Don't compare your husband to any other man

#### as a single woman

- stop competing with men
- to respect the men in your life, starting with your brothers and dad

3. **Rejoicing in time to come** ('laughing at the days to come') – a result after you've put on strength and honour
- Fully confident that God is in control
  - Trusting the Lord with all your heart and not leaning on your own understanding - Proverbs 3:5
  - We trust in the Lord that even if your husband makes the wrong decision, God will protect us.

4. **Wisdom – “...she opens her mouth with wisdom...”**

We need to ASK God for wisdom

**James 1:19 (AMP)**

Let every man be quick to hear [*a ready listener*], slow to speak, slow to take offense and to get angry.

5. **Kindness – “...on her tongue is the law of kindness...”**

**Proverbs 25:15 (AMP)** ...soft speech breaks down the most bonelike resistance

**Proverbs 15:1(AMP)** a soft answer turns away wrath...

**1 Peter 3:1-5** – gentle and quiet spirit

**Gentle & quiet spirit:** A wife's obedience is not from intimidation, but from a quiet confidence, which is the fruit of trust in God. We have to make a choice to trust in the Lord. We do not manipulate, do not control, let go of our ideas, our timing, our way

A woman with a gentle & quiet spirit with kindness on her tongue might not win every battle (argument), but she is going to win her man's heart.

## **RESULT OF BEING A VIRTUOUS WOMAN**

**Proverbs 31: 30&31 (NLT)**

...a woman who fears the LORD will be greatly praised. Reward her for all she has done. Let her deeds publicly declare her praise.

**Proverbs 31: 11-12, 28**

- Praise from your husband & your children
- Your husband will safely trusts you and you will be good for him all the days of your life
- You will be treated like a princess