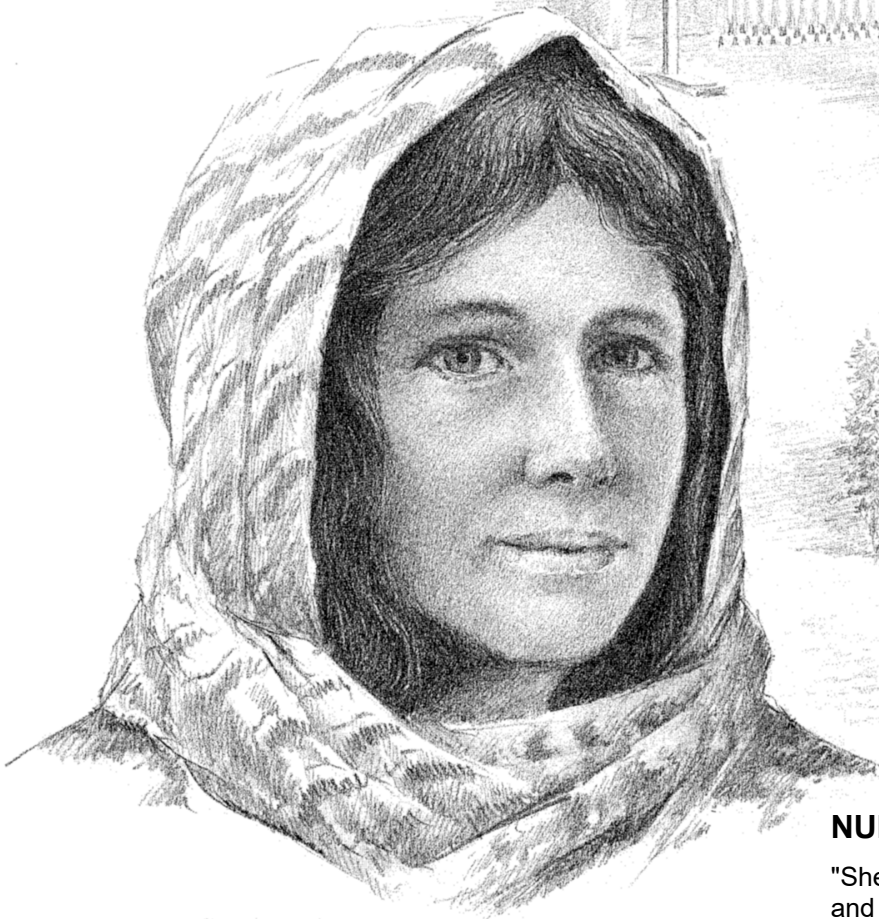


# GOD'S BLESSING OF DEVELOPING THE FULL POTENTIAL OF YOUR HOME

## LESSON 16

### A PRAISEWORTHY WIFE

*A developer of God-given potential*

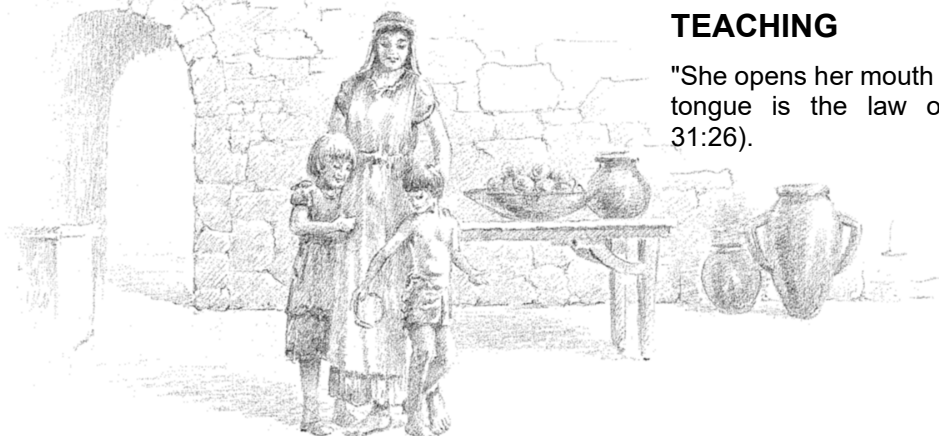


### NURTURING

"She looks well to the ways of her household, and eats not the bread of idleness" (Proverbs 31:27).

### TEACHING

"She opens her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness" (Proverbs 31:26).



# GOD'S BLESSING OF DEVELOPING THE FULL POTENTIAL OF YOUR HOME

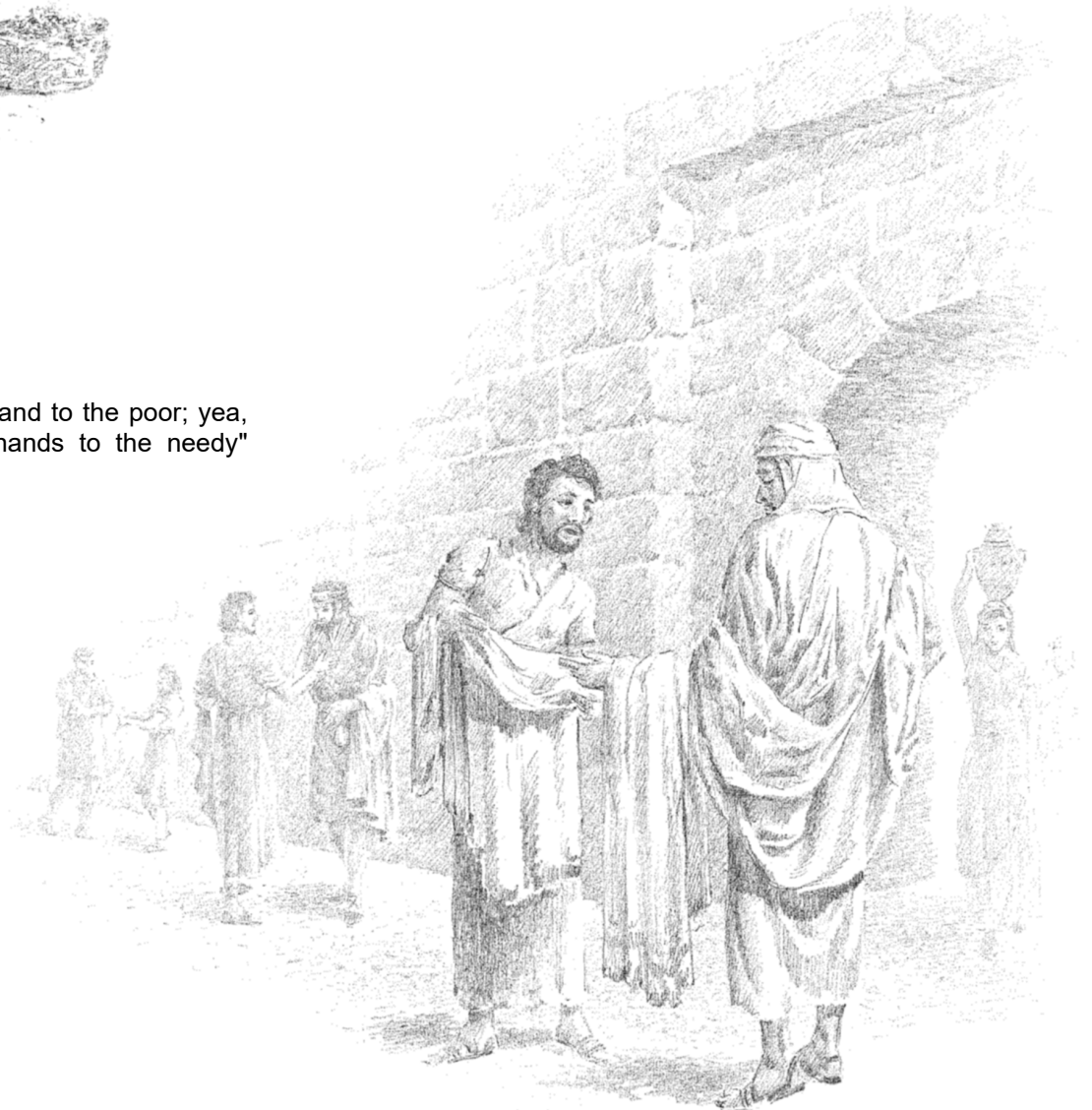
## A PRICELESS JEWEL

"Who can find a virtuous woman? for her price is far above rubies. The heart of her husband doth safely trust in her... and let her own works praise her in the gates" (Proverbs 31:10-11, 31).



## MINISTERING

"She stretches out her hand to the poor; yea, she reaches forth her hands to the needy" (Proverbs 31:20).





## HAVE YOU DEVELOPED THE GOD-GIVEN POTENTIAL OF YOUR HOME?

### PERSONAL EVALUATION:

YES / NO

1. Have you ever discussed with your spouse how to teach your children the Bible and Biblical principles at regularly at home? ☐ ☐
2. Are you using home repairs as opportunities for teaching your children practical skills? ☐ ☐
3. Have you taken specific steps to free your children from the false pressures of advertising? ☐ ☐
4. Do you have a place where guests can stay in your home? ☐ ☐
5. Do you regularly invite guests for tea or a visit in your home? ☐ ☐
6. Do you invite guests who are not able to repay you for your hospitality? ☐ ☐
7. Do you have a planned program to care for those who become sick or needy? ☐ ☐
8. Is there adequate provision in your home for the wife to develop her skills and abilities? ☐ ☐
9. Does the wife have the resources to allow her to use her skills in homemaking responsibilities? ☐ ☐
10. Can you list at least ten character qualities with their operational definitions that children should be taught? ☐ ☐
11. Do you eat at least one meal each day with all of your family present? ☐ ☐
12. Are you sure that your family practices dental hygiene daily? ☐ ☐
13. Do you have first-aid training and equipment in your home? ☐ ☐
14. Do you have a Bible Study in your home? ☐ ☐
15. Have you been able to lead at least one neighbor to salvation? ☐ ☐
16. Do you plan to care for your parents when they are old? ☐ ☐
17. Have you determined that it is not wise for the wife to work outside the home? ☐ ☐
18. Does the wife feel deeply the real value of her working in the home? ☐ ☐
19. Does the wife feel free not to work outside the home? ☐ ☐
20. Does the wife in your home reflect happiness and contentment in being a home-maker? ☐ ☐

**TOTAL CORRECT**

☐

### EVALUATION SCORE:

20-19 yes =  
 18-16 yes =  
 15-12 yes =  
 11-8 yes =  
 7-0 yes =



## KNOW WHAT FUNCTIONS GOD INTENDED TO BE IN YOUR HOME

*Many families have lost interest in the home because it no longer has the vital functions which God intended for it. When these Scriptural functions are restored in the home, they will have a significant effect on reaching financial freedom. These functions are as follows:*



### TEACHING CENTER

When a family is functioning according to Scripture, the basic factors of learning are present. These include acceptance, security, example, reinforcement, motivation, discipline, consistency, and reward.

Learning in the home is related to life and is motivated by both planned and unplanned events. It is in this context that God commands parents to make use of the times during the day in which a child will have the greatest learning readiness. *"And thou shalt teach them [the commandments] diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sit in thine house, and when thou walk by the way, and when thou lie down, and when thou rise up" (Deuteronomy 6:7).*

If parents delegate the total teaching of their children to others, they not only lose vital links of communication with their children, but they also forfeit the special love and admiration which children naturally have for those who faithfully teach them.

No one knows the basic needs of the child better than the parents; and the greatest potential influence on the child are the parents, as well as older brothers and sisters.

- **First objective — Character training**

God has given children a great potential of faith. *"...Except ye be converted, and become as little children, ye shall not enter into the kingdom of heaven" (Matthew 18:3).*

From birth to six years of age, children should be taught Godly character qualities and their operational definitions.

- **Second objective — Standing alone**

By the age of twelve a son or daughter must be able to effectively stand against evil, whatever the cost.

The ability to stand alone is the heritage of those who know that they have a "superior" way of life. Therefore, it is essential for parents to instill in their children basic Scriptural principles along with a wide knowledge of the Bible.

- **Third objective — Mighty in spirit**

Between the ages of twelve and twenty, sons and daughters must understand basic life concepts. Wise concepts come by applying Scriptural principles to the functions and relationships of marriage, family, ministry, vocation, and government.

- **Fourth objective — Basic skills**

A by-product of the first three objectives should be the learning of practical life skills.

These skills, with the wisdom and character behind them, will become the basis for true success.

## CHARACTER TRAITS

Here is a partial list of character traits which you can start teaching to your children, or working on in your own life. We suggest you choose one and discuss it with your family. Read the definition together. Write your own definition. Look up the Bible verse, and think of other Bible verses that would support it.

### **Compassion** vs. Indifference

Investing whatever is necessary to heal the hurts of others (I John 3:17)

### **Contentment** vs. Covetousness

Realizing that God has provided everything I need for my present happiness (I Timothy 6:8)

### **Creativity** vs. Underachievement

Approaching a need, a task, an idea from a new perspective (Romans 12:2)

### **Decisiveness** vs. Double-mindedness

The ability to finalize difficult decisions based on the will and ways of God (James 1:5)

### **Diligence** vs. Slothfulness

Visualizing each task as a special assignment from the Lord and using all my energies to accomplish it (Colossians 3:23)

### **Endurance** vs. Giving up

The inward strength to withstand stress to accomplish God's best (Galatians 6:9)

### **Faith** vs. Presumption

Visualizing what God intends to do in a given situation and acting in harmony with it (Hebrews 11:1)

### **Forgiveness** vs. Rejection

Clearing the record of those who have wronged me and allowing God to love them through me (Ephesians 4:32)

### **Generosity** vs. Stinginess

Realizing that all I have belongs to God and using it for His purposes (II Corinthians 9:6)

### **Gentleness** vs. Harshness

Showing personal care and concern in meeting the need of others (I Thessalonians 2:7)

### **Gratefulness** vs. Unthankfulness

Making known to God and others in what ways they have benefited my life (I Corinthians 4:7)

### **Humility** vs. Pride

Recognizing that it is actually God and others who are responsible for the achievements in my life (James 4:6)

### **Initiative** vs. Unresponsiveness

Recognizing and doing what needs to be done before I am asked to do it (Romans 12:21)

### **Joyfulness** vs. Self-pity

The spontaneous enthusiasm of my spirit when my soul is in fellowship with the Lord (Psalm 16:11)

### **Love** vs. Selfishness

Giving to others' basic needs without having as my motive personal reward (I Corinthians 13:3)

### **Obedience** vs. Willfulness

Freedom to be creative under the protection of divinely appointed authority (II Corinthians 10:5)

### **Orderliness** vs. Disorganization

Preparing myself and my surroundings so I will achieve the greatest efficiency (I Corinthians 14:40)

### **Patience** vs. Restlessness

Accepting a difficult situation from God without giving Him a deadline to remove it (Romans 5:3–4)

### **Responsibility** vs. Unreliability

Knowing and doing what both God and others are expecting from me (Romans 14:12)

### **Reverence** vs. Disrespect

Awareness of how God is working through the people and events in my life to produce the character of Christ in me (Proverbs 23:17–18)

### **Self-Control** vs. Self-indulgence

Instant obedience to the initial promptings of God's Spirit (Galatians 5:24–25) right with transparent motives (I Peter 1:22)

### **Truthfulness** vs. Deception

Earning future trust by accurately reporting past facts (Ephesians 4:25)

### **Wisdom** vs. Natural Inclinations

Seeing and responding to life's situations from God's frame of reference (Proverbs 9:10)



## HOSPITALITY CENTER

The best financial investment that any Christian can make is in the lives of others. One of the most practical ways of doing this is to open your home to others.

God promises to reward the family who shows hospitality. In fact, He explains that this function should grow out of disciplines which the family learns together. *"Is not this the fast that I have chosen... to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? Then shall thy light break forth as the morning and thine health shall spring forth speedily..." (Isaiah 58:6-8).*

This function is so important that God makes it one of the prerequisites for a woman to qualify for church support when she becomes a widow, *"...If she have lodged strangers..." (1 Timothy 5:10).*

Christ gave specific guidelines regarding the motives of such hospitality. We are not to look to guests to reward us financially, because God promises that He will. *"...When thou make a dinner or a supper, call ... the poor, the maimed, the lame, the blind: And thou shalt be blessed; for they cannot recompense thee: for thou shalt be recompensed at the resurrection of the just" (Luke 14:12-14).*

The immediate benefits of home hospitality are as follows:

- **Godly goals are reinforced**

Guests provide a marvelous motivation for both parents and children to work toward the spiritual goals which they have set for themselves and their home. Parents are also able to give proper recognition of their children's achievements.

- **Valuable insights are learned**

Every guest will have a storehouse of valuable insights, ideas, and lessons learned.

By learning how to ask precise questions, rich counsel and information can be gained. Wise parents will invite guests who will reinforce the teachings that they are practicing in the home.

- **Principles of sharing are learned**

A family should look at their home as a channel of help and encouragement to others, not simply as a storehouse to gather for themselves. God promises to bless whatever a family gives in His name — even a cup of cold water.

- **The home is cleansed**

Guests notice things which Christians have in their homes. Making the house ready for guests, therefore, involves an evaluation of how the books, art, and other contents of the home will reflect the true message of Christian living.

A Christian home should have in it items which God has provided by answers to prayer. These items become dynamic reminders to the family and effective illustrations which can be shared with guests.



## CRAFT CENTER

Many businesses were started as a result of people using their skills to meet needs in the home. Not only can home products become a means of income, but they can also be a source of fulfillment to the family and encouragement to others.

One mother had a special ability to grow plants. Soon she was providing plants for exclusive offices in her town. This ability not only provided additional income, but it also provided a significant opportunity to witness to her customers.

A mother who uses the home as a craft center, however, must be careful to keep her priorities in balance. She must be sensitive to her husband's cautions and counsel, and she must not allow her business to crowd out her family's needs.

God explains the qualities of a praiseworthy mother in Proverbs 31. A significant amount of space is devoted to her ability to use available resources in providing quality items for her family, as well as for others.



- *"She seek wool, and flax, and work willingly with her hands" (vs. 13).*
- *"She considers a field, and buys it: with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard" (vs. 16).*
- *"She perceives that her merchandise is good: her candle goes not out by night" (vs. 18).*
- *"She lays her hands to the spindle, and her hands hold the distaff" (vs. 19).*
- *"She makes herself coverings of tapestry..." (vs. 22).*
- *"She makes fine linen, and sells it..." (vs. 24).*

*"She rises also while it is yet night, and giveth meat to her household, and a portion to her maidens... Her children arise up, and call her blessed..." (vss. 15, 28).*

The range of crafts is as wide as the imagination of the family and the needs of the family and others. The general categories could include food, clothing, merchandise, and services.



## HOME POTENTIAL ILLUSTRATED

"What could I, as a housewife, do to make a little extra money? I want to send a gift to a Christian ministry."

That was the motivation that a mother had several years after becoming a Christian. Her husband was a supervisor in a bakery. She took care of their two young daughters at home.

One evening she made up ninety small cartons of salad. The next morning she asked her local grocery store and other store owners if they would stock them. They each said, "You've really got something here, but it's the wrong time of the year to sell salad."

Each store owner bought several samples and put them on the shelves. When she returned home, the phone was ringing. The salad was sold out and the store owners wanted more. She informed them that she could not return until the end of the week, because this was only to be a part-time project.

When her husband arrived home, phone calls were still coming in. He encouraged her to make up a new batch for the next day.

A year later, the manager of a national food chain that had stopped selling salads tasted hers and asked if she would prepare salads for their stores.

Soon the business outgrew the home. Today, her two sons-in-law and her grandson are directing the thriving interstate company.

Her desire to invest in God's work has resulted in more benefits than she ever imagined. Her family has been drawn closer together; her joy in giving continues; and her financial needs are being met, since her husband has gone to be with the Lord.



## NURTURING CENTER

A harmonious home adds to the health of family members. A loving, caring family will speed recovery and ease the pain of illness.

Often the first thought is to go to the clinic or hospital when a medical problem arises but medical costs continue to increase.

Obviously, certain medical problems must be treated at the hospital. However, the home's place in God's program for health care is far greater than most of us realize.

### • **Healthy attitudes**

The home must be the place of accountability for attitudes of forgiveness and clearing of conscience.

If this is not accomplished, bitterness and guilt will be like poisons in the system, producing innumerable medical, psychological, and spiritual problems.

### • **Nutritious meals**

The praiseworthy woman described in Proverbs 31 took special care in planning and preparing nutritious meals. (See Proverbs 31:14-15.)

The obvious result of well-balanced meals will be the increased health of the family and decreased medical bills.

- **Regular fasting**

God designed fasting for specific spiritual objectives. Those who voluntarily set aside one or more meals in order to spend time in reading God's Word and in prayer will be drawn closer to the Lord. They will discern God's leading more clearly and receive His promised blessings. (See Matthew 6:16-18.)

Fasting is also being used by many people to achieve significant physical benefits. Carefully planned fasts will eliminate dangerous toxins in the body system and increase spiritual and physical alertness.

Before entering into a fast, make sure you do not have any medical condition that would harm you during a fast.

- **Dental care**

The cost of repairing tooth decay and treating gum disease is rapidly increasing; and, as most dentists will admit, there would be little or no need for their services if proper eating and cleaning practices were maintained.

- **Home safety**

Home accidents are both painful and costly. A parent's watchful eye and careful training of the children will avoid many accidents. However, if accidents do happen, first-aid procedures should be known and used.

- **Home treatment**

Many patients go into the hospital with one problem and come out with another.

The difficulty of maintaining sanitary conditions is a constant challenge to hospitals. Whenever possible, the home should be considered for the treatment of, and recovery from, medical problems.

- **Believing prayer**

When a family member has a serious illness, one of the steps which should be followed is to call for the elders of the church. Instructions for this procedure are given in James 5:14-16:

*"Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord: And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him. Confess your faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much."*

This does not negate the place of medical help, but it puts sickness in its proper spiritual perspective, allowing many families to avoid unnecessary operations and costly medical bills.



## MINISTRY CENTER

The early Church grew in numbers and effectiveness because each home was viewed as an extension of the local church. Early Christians would meet daily in various homes to exhort each other from God's Word, pray, and share meals together.

Today, homes abound with possibility for effective spiritual outreach. This outreach gives purpose and direction for funds spent in the home.

- **Home Bible studies**

Many neighbors and friends have been won to Christ and helped to spiritual growth through home Bible studies. Special classes can be conducted for men, women, couples, youth, children, professional groups, and families.

- **Missionary projects**

God may give a particular concern to a family for a missionary or mission field. This could involve correspondence during the year. If it is a home mission field, the family could make visits during the summer.

Missionary projects build fellowship in the family and provide clear direction for giving to the Lord's work.

- **Neighborhood witnessing**

A variety of opportunities are present in a neighborhood to demonstrate Christian love, understanding, and assistance, and to explain the Gospel. When we demonstrate Christian love, neighbors are encouraged to ask us for a reason for the hope that lies within us.

- **Visiting the fatherless and widows**

The growing reality of our society is that more and more families are being divided. This makes the outreach of Christian families even more necessary. God states that *"pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, to visit the fatherless and widows..."* (James 1:27).

- **Home care for elderly parents**

There are definite benefits in ministering to elderly parents in the home. Grandchildren are able to see the rewards of a Godly life or the consequences of youthful sins.



Family members are forced to develop more Godly attitudes as they respond to the difficult needs of the elderly.

The possibility of neglect or harmful care outside of the home is avoided. Grandchildren are taught loyalty and respect for their parents as they see their parents demonstrate those same qualities to their grandparents.

Relatives are drawn together for prayer and counsel as needs for care become more critical.

- ***Superior way of life***

The most effective outreach comes as neighbors and friends observe all the functions taking place in your home and realize that you have a superior way of life. They will often share their problems and ask you for counsel.

## **REDUCE BILLS AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF YOUR LIFE**

1. Shut off your television and computer and learn how to communicate with each other – play little family games.
2. Choose “face to face” time instead of doing everything by phone and texting.
3. Avoid prepared foods and learn more about healthy forms of cooking.
4. Replace home repair services with family teamwork.
5. Decrease food bills by obeying Biblical guidelines for eating.
6. Reduce clothing costs by learning how to sew and how to care for clothes.
7. Reduce dental and medical bills by practicing dental hygiene and preventive medicine.
8. Reduce the use of buses and get more exercise by bicycling or walking.

# WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A MOTHER WORKS OUTSIDE OF THE HOME



## 1. SHE VIOLATES SCRIPTURE

God intended for the home to be the center of a mother's world. In Titus 2:5, women are instructed to be *"...discreet, chaste, keepers at home, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God be not blasphemed."*

In I Timothy 5:14, younger women are instructed to *"...marry, bear children, guide the house, give none occasion to the adversary to speak reproachfully."*

Solomon warned his son that one of the evidences of an evil woman was that *"...her feet abide not in her house" (Proverbs 7:11).*

## 2. SHE NEGLECTS HER CHILDREN

No one can fully take the place of the mother when children are young. There is no such thing as "quality time" in a child's world. The needs of children are as urgent as they are unscheduled; and God expects a mother, to whom He has entrusted a child, to care for that child.

## 3. SHE IS UNFULFILLED

The only way that a woman can find identity and meaning in her life is to discover and fulfill the purposes for which God made her.

Scripture clearly establishes the fact that God made the woman to be a "help meet" (helpful companion) to her husband. (See Genesis 2:18.) She will never find fulfillment by trying to copy a man's role.

## 4. SHE DAMAGES HER MARRIAGE

When a mother tries to establish her independence by working outside of her home, she deeply wounds the spirit of her marriage and the love between her and her husband.

Love is strengthened when there is a realization of how much each partner needs the other.

When we do not think that we need God, we lose our love for Him. When a mother does not think that she needs her husband or her children, she loses her love for them.

## 5. SHE MAY TRANSFER HER AFFECTIONS

When a wife works for another man, she actually displays toward him some of the attitudes of an ideal wife.

During working hours she is alert to her employer's needs and desires. She is flexible. Her expectations are minimal, and she is grateful for whatever he does to make her job easier.

Her grateful spirit encourages him to do even more for her. This prompts her to express more appreciation and admiration to him.

Soon she begins to compare her husband unfavorably with her employer, and this comparison leads to damage in her marriage relationship.

## 6. SHE FINDS HERSELF IN TWO COMPETING WORLDS

If a wife does find a job which she enjoys outside of the home, she will suddenly find that she is in two worlds — one at home and one at work. Each one will make demands and give rewards.

Since no one can serve two masters, she must ultimately decide which world will become her primary source for acceptance, approval, achievement, and fulfillment.

## 7. SHE SUFFERS DESTRUCTIVE PRESSURES

When a mother assumes employment outside of the home, she subjects herself to an additional set of pressures and tensions. These produce physical and emotional stresses.

Prolonged exposure to these stresses is causing many women to suffer physically, psychologically, and spiritually, and to transfer these pressures to their families.

## **8. SHE NEGLECTS VITAL HOME FUNCTIONS**

If a mother gives her time, energy, and talent to a job outside of the home, it obviously means that she is less able to fulfill the God-given functions in her home simply for lack of time.

The priceless opportunities within a mother's home cannot be reclaimed once her children have grown up.

## **9. SHE SETS A BAD EXAMPLE FOR OTHERS**

Some women may appear to function effectively in two worlds. By doing so, however, they provide a damaging example to other mothers who definitely cannot manage such a schedule.

## **10. SHE IS FINANCIALLY UNWISE**

Many mothers feel that they have to work outside of the home in order to make ends meet. However, a careful evaluation of that second paycheck often reveals that it is an unprofitable venture. On the other hand, a woman who develops the potential functions of her home and who practices wise buying can greatly increase the finances of the home.

The basis of "making ends meet" is not increasing income as much as it is decreasing bills by finding more efficient ways to utilize present resources.



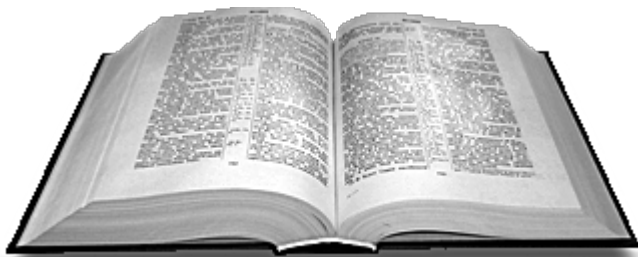
## THE MYTH OF A MOTHER'S PAYCHECK

*The following costs are estimated to try to give a picture of what the family income gains when a wife and mother works outside the home. The third column is to put in your own calculations of expenses. There are a few extra spaces for other items you may think of which are not listed here.*

	ESTIMATE	ACTUAL
<b>Annual Wage</b>	25,200 hryvnias	
<b>Monthly Salary</b>	2,100	
<b>EXPENSES (Monthly)</b>		
1. Tithe	210	
2. Transportation (20 days @ 10 hryvnias)	200	
3. Coffee, tea, snacks (20 days @ 30 hryvnias)	600	
4. Fast food or carry-out meals (from lack of time for preparation)	400	
5. Extra clothes	150	
6. Forfeited savings on thrift shopping (5%)	100	
7. Extra day care expenses		
(20 per week, one child)	80	
8. "I owe it to myself" expenses—(or to my child).	120	
<b>Total extra expense</b>	1860	
<b>Net benefit</b>	240 hryvnias	

## DO YOU PASS THE HOME DEVELOPMENT TEST?

TEST AREAS	QUESTIONS
1. Teaching center	Are you teaching Scriptural principles to your family?
2. Home maintenance	Is your apartment in need of repair?
3. Equipment repair	Is there broken equipment in your home?
4. Garbage quantity	Do you throw out leftover food or usable items?
5. Storage	Are your closets and shelves neat and orderly?
6. Unused items	Have you given to others the things that you no longer need?
7. Library books	Have you removed all unwholesome books and magazines from your home?
8. Background music	Do you play wholesome sacred and classical music?
9. Hospitality center	Is your home ready for guests at all times?
10. Craft center	Is your family developing practical skills?
11. Nurturing center	Do you practice preventive medicine?
12. Ministry center	Do your neighbors know that you are believers?
13. Witnessing	Are you praying for specific individuals?
14. True religion	Are you assisting any widows or orphans?
15. Outside employment	Is your home a place of fulfillment for the wife?



### Personal Commitment to Encourage Home Development

Because God has established the family and the home as the central unit of the Church and the nation, I purpose to develop the God-given potential of my home as taught in Scripture.

This means that I will encourage and assist my wife in a fulfilling ministry in our home, rather than encouraging her to work outside of the home.

Wife's agreement \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Husband's agreement \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## A BIBLICAL EXAMPLE OF HOSPITALITY

**Children's activity. Choose the correct answer for each question. This account is found in 2 Kings 4:8-37.**

1. Years ago there was a great woman who lived in the town of  
☐ A. Bethel.  
☐ B. Shunem.  
☐ C. Shushan.
2. Occasionally there passed by her house a Godly prophet named  
☐ A. Elijah.  
☐ B. Elisha.  
☐ C. Daniel.
3. Whenever the prophet came by, she urged him to come in and  
☐ A. Rest.  
☐ B. Counsel.  
☐ C. Eat.
4. One day she said to her husband, "Let us make a little  
☐ A. House."  
☐ B. Chamber."  
☐ C. Tent."
5. She would furnish it with a bed, a table, a stool, and a  
☐ A. Lamp.  
☐ B. Lantern.  
☐ C. Candlestick.
6. Her husband agreed, and thereafter the prophet always  
☐ A. Used it.  
☐ B. Stayed away.  
☐ C. Remained.
7. One day, the prophet asked God to reward this woman and her husband by giving them  
☐ A. Health.  
☐ B. Money.  
☐ C. A child.
8. The following year this woman and her husband had a  
☐ A. Boy.  
☐ B. Girl.  
☐ C. Twins.
9. The child grew, but one day he had a severe  
☐ A. Injury.  
☐ B. Headache.  
☐ C. Cough.
10. The mother held him on her knees until noon. Then he  
☐ A. Recovered.  
☐ B. Did not improve.  
☐ C. Died.
11. So the mother saddled her donkey and rode to the  
☐ A. Father.  
☐ B. Doctor.  
☐ C. Prophet.
12. When she arrived, she wanted the prophet to  
☐ A. Pray.  
☐ B. Come.  
☐ C. Send help.
13. The prophet sent his servant after he gave him his  
☐ A. Coat.  
☐ B. Bible.  
☐ C. Rod.
14. The servant used what he was given. The result was  
☐ A. Healing.  
☐ B. Improvement  
☐ C. Nothing.
15. Finally, the prophet arrived and stretched himself upon the boy. He recovered after sneezing  
☐ A. Three times.  
☐ B. Seven times.  
☐ C. Once.



## HOW DOES GOD ILLUSTRATE THE POTENTIAL OF THE HOME?



*Whose home is described?*

- ☐ 1. My home illustrates the potential of a learning center. I did not have the assistance of a father, yet the training that was given to me in my youth had far-reaching results for the cause of Christ.
- ☐ 2. The things that took place in my home demonstrate the potential of a hospitality center. God promises that if we entertain strangers, we may entertain angels without knowing it. We often entertained Someone of greater importance than angels.
- ☐ 3. My home became a health center. Late one night, I brought two severely wounded men into my house, bathed and dressed their wounds, and refreshed their spirits. God rewarded my family and me with salvation.
- ☐ 4. My home also illustrates a health center and a ministry center. I was caring for a very sick mother-in-law. Because I brought the Lord into my home, she was miraculously healed. She then used the home as a base of ministry.
- ☐ 5. My home illustrates the potential of a home industry. I did not believe I had anything of value in the house, but God had me take what I did have and use some other resources. He multiplied the results so that I was able to get out of debt.
- ☐ 6. Our home has been cited as an effective ministry center. In fact, we established the pattern for the growth of the early Church. Christians met in our home on a regular basis, and we strengthened them from God's Word.

**A. PETER'S HOME**

*(See Matthew 8:14-17.)*

**B. MARY AND MARTHA'S HOME**

*(See Luke 10:38-42.)*

**C. TIMOTHY'S HOME**

*(See II Timothy 1:5.)*

**D. WIDOWS HOME**

*(See II Kings 4:1-7.)*

**E. AQUILA AND PRISCILLA'S HOME**

*(See Acts 18:2; Romans 16:3.)*

**F. PHILIPPIAN JAILOR'S HOME**

*(See Acts 16:33-34.)*

## WHO FAILED IN THE USE OF HIS HOME?

*Match the statement with the best answer.*

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1. This person failed to use his home as an effective learning center. The consequences were devastating to him, his two sons, and the nation.   | <b>A. Noah</b><br>(See Genesis 9)             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 2. He used his home to show hospitality to a prophet of God; but to convince his guest to come, he deceived him with a lie. His guest was killed when he left the house.                 | <b>B. Asa</b><br>(See 2 Chronicles 16:12-13)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 3. He asked that a relative visit his home to make a meal, but his real motive was to be immoral with his guest. His brother killed him for what he did.                                 | <b>C. Amnon</b><br>(See II Samuel 13)         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 4. He used his home as a hospitality center, but failed to be the proper host. The Lord reproved him and praised another guest who did what the host should have done.                   | <b>D. Herod</b><br>(See Matthew 14:3-11)      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5. His home failed as a learning center and a craft center when he made wine from his vineyard and became drunk. His son mocked him and was cursed by God.                               | <b>E. Achan</b><br>(See Joshua 7)             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 6. He wanted to buy a vineyard that was next to his house, but it was not for sale. He allowed his wife to seize it craftily. God destroyed him, his family, and all of his descendants. | <b>F. The Old Prophet</b><br>(See 1 Kings 13) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 7. He turned his house into a health center for himself; but instead of first calling on the Lord, he trusted only in the doctors and died.  | <b>G. Simon</b><br>(See Luke 7:44)            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 8. He used his house as a place to hide the treasures which he had wrongfully gained. His disobedience caused many deaths.   | <b>H. Eli</b><br>(See 1 Samuel 3-4)           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 9. He used his house to entertain many guests, but he allowed sensual dancing to take place. This caused a tragic death.   | <b>I. Hezekiah</b><br>(See 2 Kings 20:12-19)  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 10. God blessed him with riches and wealth, but when visitors came to his house, he proudly showed them everything. This encouraged them to return and steal it all.                     | <b>J. Ahab</b><br>(See 1 Kings 21:1-26)       |