

Biblical Discipleship – Session III

By Steve Farrar

Story is told of two guys that were up backpacking in the Canadian Rockies. They had 10 days vacation, they were camping out. They were in the high country, fly fishing. They were having a wonderful time. One particular morning, they were up early. They were headed up to a particular stream they'd been told about. And as they were hiking this remote trail, they suddenly heard the unmistakable sound of a grizzly bear. And it was very close.

[00:00:30.750] Immediately, one of the guys sat down, took some Nike's out of his backpack, took off his big boots and began to strap up his running shoes. And his friend just looked at him in amazement and he said, What are you doing? He said, I'm put on my Nike's. He said he said, You don't think you can outrun a grizzly, do you? The grizzly can run down a horse. The guy kept tying his Nike's, he said, no, I don't have to outrun the grizzly. I just need to outrun you.

[00:00:58.440] Nothing like a true friend in times of need. We're living in a culture that continues to generate morally and spiritually and ethically. It's a culture that we can't run away from. Yet we are called within this culture to be the church and we are called to be different. We are called to be distinct. We are called to be men and women of God. And we have been looking in these last couple of sessions about what the scripture says about men and women.

[00:01:28.440] And what I want to do in our session today is that I want to give a final word to men and then I want to give a final word to women and let's see if we can't integrate this and apply it in a very practical way so that we can be men and women of difference and distinction in a culture that has lost its mind morally and spiritually. I want to talk to them in first, a final word

to men. And if you have your Bibles, I'd like you to turn with me to first, Timothy, Chapter four in First Timothy, Chapter four.

[00:02:00.360] Paul is talking to a rookie. Whenever you read Timothy, remember the word rookie. Timothy was a rookie pastor. He was green, he was young, he was inexperienced. And Paul is mentoring Timothy. Paul is showing him the ropes. Paul is coaching Timothy. He's given in tips. He's helping him navigate the different obstacles that are in his life. And in First Timothy, chapter four, verse twelve, he specifically addresses Timothy. He's specifically addressing young men. And we've got young men in this gymnasium here this afternoon. Not what not what Paul says to Timothy. First Timothy for twelve. Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers that that Greek word, their being example is the word.

[00:02:54.300] The idea is of a template. If you I work in Microsoft Word and in Microsoft Word, they've got some templates. If you want to write a business letter, you can go double click on a template and it will get a template is an example. A template is something to work off of. If you've not written a business letter before, you're not sure how to do it. You just go double click and you'll get an example of a business letter and then you can modify it.

[00:03:22.860] So he's writing to young Timothy and he says, Don't let anyone look down on your youthfulness. Well, how in the world do you keep people from looking down on your youthfulness? You keep them from looking down on your youthfulness by demonstrating maturity. You say because you're young doesn't mean you can't be mature. Maturity is a very precious thing. So the issue is not chronological age. The issue is spiritual maturity. And he says, show yourself and example, show yourself a template.

[00:03:55.290] You see, this is what we were talking about the other day, that as believers in Christ, I think I said it here. I think I did. Did I talk about going upstream instead of downstream? No. Where was that? That was Alabama. I think that's part of the Christian life. You see, the easy thing to do is to go with the culture. The easy thing to do is just to drift. The easy thing to do is to rent an inner tube and just drift down the river. But as Christians, we're called never to go downstream. We're always called to go upstream. That's what it means to be an example. And as a young man, as a young woman, God is looking for some young men and young women who will be examples.

[00:04:36.090] Now, not twenty years from now, not thirty years from now. He's looking for someone who will be eighteen, who will be an example. Nineteen, who will be an example. That's what he's looking for. So it's an issue. It's an issue of character. We had a Q&A session last night and one of the guys asked an excellent question. He said, you've been teaching all the stuff about biblical manhood and womanhood. I'm a college guy. What should I be working on now? I'm not married. Great question.

[00:05:09.690] What you should be working on right now is character. You see, a lot of times you think, well, you know, when I get married, I want to be a certain kind of man. That's a very good thing when you get married. So you think about marriage and a man that's going to be a lot of responsibility. Yeah. And, you know, it's important that there would be truth in our marriage. There's important it's important.

[00:05:31.410] There be integrity. Well, you don't wait until you're married to start working on those things. You start working on those things right now, you see, because because if you wait until you're married, you're going to be behind the ball game. You start developing the kind of

godliness in your life that need to be there. Now, in another place, Paul tells Timothy, he says, discipline yourself. For godliness, you say it's interesting, he says, he says Timothy, show yourself an example of why this is important.

[00:06:06.450] We desperately need examples. We desperately need godly templates in this culture because the culture is going the wrong way. And many people in the Church of Jesus Christ, there's a guy named George Barna, perhaps you've heard of Barnham, Barnardo, some great work because what Barna does, he sort of the George Gallup of the Christian community and he pulls different Christians and asked them different things. I spoke with George Barna last year and he did a he gave a 10 page handout where he basically talked about the behavior and the beliefs of Christians versus non Christians.

[00:06:42.990] And he looked at it in their marriage, looked at in their ethics. He looked at it in terms of what they what what they watch on television, what they read. And essentially, I think it's fair to say what George Barnard said he could find absolutely no difference between the majority of evangelical Christians and pagans, no difference. There's something wrong there because somebody somebody needs to be an example. You guys, your young men, most of you're single.

[00:07:12.480] You're going to be married one day. What kind of married man are you going to be? What kind of husband are you going to be? What kind of father you're going to be? You've got to start working on character now. When you're 18, when you're 19, when you're 20, when you're twenty one, you've got to start forming godly habits. You need to get a grip on your mind. You need to get a grip on your thought life early, because the longer you wait, the more difficult time you're going to have.

[00:07:39.120] We got all these temptations coming at us all the time. And it's your job as a Christian man not to lower the standard. It's your job as a Christian man to raise the standard, not what he says to Timothy. He talked about being an example. Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers. Now, teach this in word and conduct in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Your purity is going to be tested every day of your life, every day.

[00:08:15.660] And it'll be tested not only in big things, it will be tested in little things. Four or five years ago, I got a call. I was at home. Somebody calls at Sports Illustrated. Mr. Ferrar, your Sports Illustrated issue is run out. If you'll read subscribe, I'll send you the Michael Jordan video. We'll send you the Larry Bird t shirt we'll send you two years for thirty two dollars, and we'll send you the swimsuit edition. I said I said, I'll tell you what, I'm a godly man.

[00:08:42.060] I need to resubscribe because God, women are, you know, keep up with football and basketball, I think. Yeah, that's right. I said, yeah, hey, Jesus, tell me all the stuff I'm going to get with my subscription. I said, hey, you know what? Send me the Jordan video. Send me the Larry Bird t shirt, but don't send me the swimsuit edition. she said, sorry. I'm not sure we can do that. I said, oh, yeah, you can do it. She said, well, this is highly irregular. I said, well, it may be. I said, I want the other stuff, but don't send me the swimsuit edition. She said, Well, I'm not sure I can do that. I said, if you got a delete key on that on that keyboard, she said, Yeah, I just I said, highlight swimsuit and hit delete. And she was getting really frustrated. She's so sure this and she wouldn't quit. She kept telling me it's something I can't do. And finally I said, hey, listen, lady, listen, I got a wife. She's got a swimsuit. Don't send me the swimsuit edition.

[00:09:42.380] Now, I don't know if Rachel remembers this, but I think Rachel was in eighth grade, maybe freshman in high school, I come home one day, I'm just standing in the kitchen,

going through the mail, you know, going through everything. And as I'm putting letters and discarding envelopes here, here's a magazine. Here's a catalog boom. All of a sudden, me, their Sports Illustrated, the swimsuit edition. And there's some gal on the front, you.

[00:10:08.710] You know, I mean, I know it is. And just as I there it was, Rachel walks up to me and she looks at and she looked at that and she looked at me and she said, Dad, you're not going to read that, are you? And I said, no, Rachel, I'm not I told them not to send it to me now you know what you may be thinking, and that's a real small thing. You know what I'm telling you guys?

[00:10:39.170] It's not a small thing what we need. Let me tell you something. When you're a husband and when you're a father and you've got little girls, they're going to need to see some man who is committed to their mother. They're going to see some guy who doesn't lower the standard, who doesn't compromise. They need to see what it is to have a male leader that is working on purity. You say, Steve, that's kind of extreme. Yeah, I'd say it's extreme.

[00:11:08.980] Jesus said if your eye offend, you, put on sunglasses. Is that what he said? Jesus said, if your right hand offends you, put it in a cast. Is that what he said? Would you say, if your eye offend you, what do you do? pluck it out. I personally find that extreme, don't you? He said if your right hand offends you, what do you do? Cut it. That's a little extreme.

[00:11:30.580] And if you read the context, he was talking about sexual temptation. So you say that's kind of extreme, that you won't look at the swimsuit edition of Sports Illustrated. Listen, I had a little girl at my house, and you know what I want for Rachel? I want Rachel at some point in her life. I want her to have a godly home and a godly marriage. Here's what daughters do. And

you guys hear me, because one day a lot of you guys are going to have daughters and you're going to be the key man in her life.

[00:11:55.840] That's going to be an example to her of what godliness looks like. And you don't wait till you're forty two to develop this stuff you start working on when you're 20 to see. I had a little girl in my house. I want her to have a godly home and a godly marriage. One day here's what a daughter does. And a daughter doesn't even realize this, but a daughter when she gets in. Rachel, you know, here's the you know, it's neat when you're like little three year old, four year old, five little girls running around.

[00:12:25.210] They're real cute. The thing that's really wild is 10 years later, they're like 14, 15, 16. And these guys start circling your house. I use that term by design, sort of like buzzards. Circle your house. Remember that guy used to circle in the red pickup? He disappeared three years ago. They've never found him. Now I'm just kidding. At a certain point, you guys that are not married yet, one day you have a little girl and then she's going to grow up and then guys are going to want to come into her life.

[00:13:04.310] Here's what happens with a daughter. A daughter takes the template of her father's life. And what she does is and it needs to be a positive template. Not every one of you girls has a positive template, but you guys that aren't married yet and one day you'll get married, have daughters. You need to give your daughter a positive template of godliness. And what will happen is she'll take that template. And then every time some guy comes into her life and wants to get to know her, what happens is let's say he goes out with her and they're having dinner and he's sort of harsh and critical.

[00:13:37.940] He ought to bounce off the template of your example because that's not how you treated her. If the guy tries to make a physical advance, a sexual advance, he bounces off the template of your example and you put out a contract on his life. I'm supposed to say just kidding. You think that's funny, don't you? Yeah. How how is a daughter supposed to know what to look for? So you guys are not married yet, but one day you'll be married. You have daughters. Are you going want your daughter to have a good marriage? Are you going to want her to marry the right kind of guy? Then you be the right kind of guy and you model it.

[00:14:23.910] So so you're going to have to decide what you're going to do. So what are you going to look at this? This is an interesting word here. This word purity. Somebody needs to be an example and purity. And and the interesting thing is, Paul saying you don't wait till you're 40, you don't wait till you're 50 to be an example in in purity. This is an interesting word, this word purity, because the word cause cause covers not only purity and sex, but catch this. I was over in the library about 20 minutes ago doing a quick word study.

[00:14:55.440] This word not only means purity in sex, but also the innocence and integrity of your heart. How innocent is your heart? You know what we do with children in this culture, we continue with young children in this culture, we rob them of their innocence. So young kids are seeing stuff at early ages that are just beyond belief. And when kids see things graphically and sexually before they can handle them emotionally, it robs them of their innocence. Let me ask you something. Is there innocence in your heart? A lot of times we don't think about that as men.

[00:15:34.390] But you know what? There's to be an innocence. We're not to be acquainted with evil. We're not to be acquainted with morality. There is to be a godly innocence in terms of purity if you're going to be a godly example. Let me give you something else, when he says be

an example, I think what we also need are some I done here run seriously about two forty five. OK, just checking. Just checking. We need an example of what godly masculinity looks like, and I think in the Church of Jesus Christ, there is confusion over what a balanced biblical male looks like. There's a guy by the name of Steven Clark. He's written a book called Man and Woman in Christ. And Clark has made, I think, some very accurate assessments of a problem in the Christian church about masculinity. Allow me to allow me to quote Clark and see if this doesn't resonate with you, see if it doesn't sync with you.

[00:16:43.880] Clark says a lack of Christian manliness is particularly a problem for two types of men the socially disruptive man and the feminized man. The socially disruptive male is prone to become a delinquent if he is young or a criminal, if he is older, if he does not actually break the law, he is at least habitually socially irresponsible. He is often unstable occupationally and in his family commitments. And if he is not violent, he is at least a social problem.

[00:17:15.440] The socially disruptive male is fairly easy for the Christian to perceive and understand as someone lacking in Christian character. So you get a guy that's in a gang or you get a guy that's in in fights all the time, or you get a guy that's thrown in jail. Obviously this guy is not a problem. What he needs to know is he needs to find Jesus Christ so Christ can change his life and turn him around. That's a fairly easy one.

[00:17:37.010] When men get out of control and they become macho, they think masculinity is some macho street fighter. OK, that's pretty easy to spot and pretty easy. Correct. But here's the second one. He talks about the feminized male. Now, listen carefully to this. Christians do not as easily identify the feminized male as someone for whom Christian manliness is a particular

problem. This in itself is revealing. Contemporary Christians often lack an ideal of manly character. And in other words, what he means by that is a lot of contemporary Christians.

[00:18:14.480] We're not sure what the ideal Christian man looks like. We're confused about masculinity and he says and they do not value some of the character traits that ought to be prominent in a man like courage, aggressiveness and readiness to lead in personal relationships situations when one is the proper person to do so. The contemporary the contemporary picture of Christian character is all too often feminine and Victorian. The Victorian notion of feminine at that, the fact is, is that many men in our society have been feminized to some degree, and that is true of an increasing number of them.

[00:18:55.250] Let me tell you what Clark saying. Follow me here. What Clark is saying is there are different character traits. And in the Church of Jesus Christ, let's take let's take like gentleness. Is that a good trait? Sure it is. Let's take sensitivity. Is that a good trait? Sure. Let's take let's take kindness. Is that a good trait? Oh, man. That's those are great traits. All right. Now, let's take a couple other traits. Let's take courage. Is that a good trait? Let's take aggressiveness. Can that be a good trait? Yeah, sure. Let's take initiative. When you're the the right person to lead that you lead. Are those good traits? Yeah. Now follow me here. This is really important in the Christian church.

[00:19:41.330] We tend to take traits like kindness and gentleness and sensitivity, and we elevate those over courage and aggressiveness. And that's wrong. That's wrong. All of those traits are significant. The key the key is applying the right trait in the right situation at the right time. That's Christian manliness. So could Jesus be gentle? Oh, yeah. Could Jesus be tender? He could.

[00:20:15.410] When you've got a broken heart, does Jesus understand and and give you compassion. You, Betty, does does Jesus understand your thoughts from afar? You bet he does. And that's great. You see. But could Jesus be aggressive, huh? Did Jesus have courage? When I was a little boy, I remember going with my mom into a Christian bookstore. I'll never forget this. I was about four years old and I walked in there and they had this picture of Jesus and Jesus was kneeling and sort of praying on this rock.

[00:20:47.420] And I was kind of surprised by the pictures, a little kid. When I was a little kid, my mom used to have these women's magazines and on the back they always had these advertisements for Breck shampoo and they were full page and they would have a portrait of some model that had been painted. And it was about three quarters. Her portrait was three. We'll talk about Breck shampoo and how lustrous and shiny and all that jazz, but they had flawless complexions and their hair was just it had a sheen and kind of a glow.

[00:21:20.650] You know, I remember seeing those Women magazine and then I walked into that Christian bookstore and there's Jesus kneeling and praying. And you know what? Jesus had the same kind of hair. He did no, He really did, according to this artist. And Jesus didn't. He had a flawless skin and he had kind of soft hands and he kind of had a shine to his hair. That's not Jesus. Jesus walked into the temple, started clearing out, and they didn't say, look at his hair, was Jesus aggressive?

[00:22:02.140] Was Jesus courageous? Let me ask you something. Was that appropriate? Was it? Yes. Because you see at that situation, that's what was needed at that time. That was not the time for a man to be passive. That was not the time for the man to be gentle. That was the time for a man to say, get out of my father's house. He expressed zeal for the holiness of God. Now, what

we tend to do in the church's track with me here, we tend to say it's not good for Christian men to have courage or to be aggressive or to have zeal.

[00:22:33.280] That's wrong. We tend to feminized men and say you ought to be. Well, let me go on and tell you what Clark says is interesting stuff and see if I can find it. He says, the term feminization as used by you guys. You guys with me, I don't want to bore you here. You follow me, are you really? You're just being nice. All right.

[00:22:55.090] OK, just checking. Listen to this. He says the term feminization because maybe you should listen to this guy. So I mean, feminized. I'm not. Well, listen to what he means. The term feminization, as used by many social scientists, should not be confused with such words as femininity or effeminacy or homosexuality. Femininity is a natural, womanly quality, and it's a good quality. A woman is feminine when she has an appropriate womanly personality, when her strength and assertiveness and interest are expressed in a womanly way.

[00:23:31.960] Effeminacy describes the condition of a man who acts like a woman whose psychological structure is womanly. Effeminacy usually betrays an underlying difficulty in psychosocial adjustment. Homosexuality refers to people who relate sexually to those of the same sex. None of these things describe the feminized male. So Clarkes, as this being feminize then, is not the same as being effeminate or being feminine. A feminized male is a male who has learned to behave or react in ways that are more appropriate to women.

[00:24:08.560] The feminized male can be normal as a male with no tendencies to reject being male and no tendencies towards homosexuality. And yet he can have been so influenced by women or can have so identified himself with a world in which women dominate that many of his interest and traits are more womanly than manly compared to men who have not been

feminized. He will place much higher emphasis and attention on how he feels and how other people feel. He will be much more gentle and handle situations in a soft way.

[00:24:41.860] He will be much tetch this now this is critical. He will be much more subject to the approval of the group, especially emotionally expressed approval. That is how others feel about him and what he is doing, how others react to him. Let me tell you something about a feminized male. A feminized male will never take a stand for Jesus Christ when he's got to stand alone. You know why? Because he cares what people think. If we're going to become mature men, we have to be concerned about one thing and that's pleasing the Lord Jesus.

[00:25:12.880] You please the Lord Jesus and everything else will take care of itself. The moment you decide that you're going to work on pleasing other people, you're dead because you can never please other people. The feminized male, they'll catch this, the feminized male. He will sometimes tend to relate by preference to women and other feminized or effeminate men and will sometimes have a difficult time with an all male group. He will tend to fear women's emotions and then his family and at work he can be easily controlled by the possibility of women having an emotional reaction. He will tend to idealize women, and if he is religious, he will tend to see in women the ideal Christians or the definition of what it means to be spiritual.

[00:25:55.660] He will catch this. He will identify Christian virtue with female characteristics. That's the feminized man. Now, what do you do if you're a feminized guy? I think a lot of guys have been feminized. You know why? Because when we're little boys, they put us in grade school and they and they tell us to sit still for eight hours. And we have elementary school teachers that are women that don't. And they're good. They're not men. I used to get that. I already say this. I can't remember what I've said here because I speak so much.

[00:26:28.030] A brief reference. Thanks, Ron. In the question answer, I remember getting a note about my son John. The teacher called me. I'm saying, you know, please wait. And what's the problem? I'll just read the note. John is not sitting still in class. OK, now, if he's disrespectful, I'm going to take care of that. If he's giving the teacher a hard time, I'm going to take care of that, but John is not sitting still in class.

[00:26:48.500] Listen, eight year old boys were not designed by God to sit in chairs for eight hours and not say anything, were they? That's not how God made little boys. So what we tell a little boy, sit there and be quiet, they're not supposed to sit there and be quiet. They're supposed to climb up 40 foot oak trees and just jump. They are why is it that little boys are crazy? They're nuts because they have massive amounts of testosterone in their bodies and it doesn't go away.

[00:27:26.540] I came home a few weeks ago from a conference. Mary picks me up at the airport and as I got in, she said, John's going to be OK. I said, what? She said, John's going to be OK. What are you talking about? Well, earlier that day, John's a senior in high school. He and some of his buddies over a guy's house. The guy's got a trampoline. They're bouncing on a trampoline. And they look up at the two story house.

[00:27:48.890] They say, let's climb up on the roof and jump off the two storey roof. So they all climb up, they all get up there and they all look at all the guys say, I'm not jumping, I'm not jumping John's, I'll jump, too. So John jumps, drives the trampoline into the ground. Can't feel anything from the neck down. They call the paramedics. Mary gets a call, come to the emergency room John's in one of those things, huh? I fly in a few hours. John's going to be OK.

[00:28:22.740] And once I knew he had movement below the neck, I beat the tar out of that kid. No, I didn't. I wanted to say, John, what were you thinking? Rachel never jumped off two storey

buildings. You see, men and women are different because they have massive amounts of the boys of testosterone. Let me tell you let me say a word, you gals, about when you get married, have little boys. Be careful of instilling in your boys a fear of getting hurt. Single mothers tend to femininity as boys, and they don't mean to do because little boys are aggressive. Now, you don't want the kid to be totally crazy, but you got to be careful.

[00:29:01.680] You want to teach them some wisdom and discretion. But if you put a deep seated fear in them of being hurt, then they can't be real men. So what are you talking about, Steve? Jesus said in Ephesians five through Paul Husbands love your wives as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her. Godly men are willing to do what Jesus did for the church. Godly men are willing to die for their wives. As Jesus died for the church of a young boy has a fear put in him of getting hurt.

[00:29:31.650] When he becomes a man, he won't put himself at risk because his greatest fear is getting hurt. God has made men to get hurt. God has made men to protect. God has made men to take hits for their family. You're the protector. You're the provider. Say, Steve, you know what? I'm listening to you. And I'm so I tend to be passive. I tend to maybe at this feminization stuff is kind of hit me hard even. You know, it's not being a fun. It's not being homosexual. Well, if that's true, how do I fix that? Let me tell you, if you can fix it, you can fix it like that. What do you do? You get as close to Jesus as you can. You say here's your model. You get as close to Jesus as you can. Jesus was masculinity under control when he needed to be aggressive, he was aggressive.

[00:30:16.440] When he needed to be kind, he was kind. You see, there's your model of masculinity. Somebody needs to be an example. And let me say something else. We've got too

many men that are passive. A leader takes initiative, a leader steps up, a leader takes risk. And not saying you bulldoze people, but your greatest enemy. Guys, listen to me. Your greatest enemy is passivity. And when you get married, women hate passivity. They hate it.

[00:30:50.880] I'll drink to that. Not 20 years ago, a psychologist up in Marin County, Marin County, got a lot of money. People work in the city, they drive over the bridge. He wrote a book called Passive Men, Wild Women. He was a marriage counselor and he deals with all these couples and making big, big bucks. The husband goes over the Golden Gate Bridge. He's running some big multi corporation, making a lot of bucks. He's making decisions. He's aggressive. He's calling. He drives over the bridge. He comes home and he gets totally passive and it drives his wife wild. If you're a man, you won't be passive.

[00:31:28.660] You'll initiate, you'll lead if you're the appropriate person to do so. And if that's if that's a problem for you, just just start get around some guys that are masculine. Get around some guys that aren't feminine. You hear what I'm saying? I'm not talking about a guy out of control. I'm talking about a guy under the control of the Holy Spirit. Is this tracking at all? Huh? OK, now let's give a word to the women, OK? What do you think, guys? We go after the women now.

[00:32:00.700] What do you think? Let's do that. OK, there are some aggressive guys clapping. That's what we like. All right. Good deal. I need some guys to stand up, take off their shirts and write masculinity across their chest. How's that? No, just kidding. Oh, we got some guys up there doing that. That's great. Let's do a final word to women. OK, let's look at Titus. Go to Titus, if you would. If you get your Bible, flip over to Titus. Look at Titus, chapter two. Verse 3, you guys still with me? It's kind of warm in here. OK, I don't want to bore you. OK, Titus 2 you

guys. All right. Up there doing all right. All right. Good. Just checking. All right. There's a masculine guys up there. That's wonderful. All right.

[00:32:50.590] You know, I know those guys are masculine because they keep spitting through the bleachers. That's why I know their masculine. Good ol masculine guys. Look at Titus to verse 3, actually. Let's look at Titus 2 verse 1. Now he's talking to Titus, another young pastor or pastor, I should say, he says. But as for you speak to things which are proper for sound doctrine, that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate sound and faith and love and patience.

[00:33:14.020] He's telling them what to teach different people in the church, the older women, likewise, that they may be reverent and behavior, not slanderers, nor given to much wine teachers is a good thing. Now catch this. That they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blaspheme. Now, that's not a real popular verse in our culture, but let me point out three things as a final word to women.

[00:33:46.060] Three things. And you're and you're going to say, well, this doesn't apply to me right now. It's the same thing as the guys. The majority of women in this room are going to be married one day. You want to be a godly wife and have a godly marriage. You have a great relationship. Then start working on the things now in your character that you're going to have the need that you're going to need to have in your marriage.

[00:34:05.080] So the first thing he says is love your husband, literally. It's husband lover. The older women are to teach younger women to be husband lovers. So I don't have a husband. Steve, what do I then? You you know what you do. You love your future husband by falling in

love with Jesus Christ. Right now, Jesus Christ is the central figure in your life. So you get as close to Christ as you can. If you love him, you want to know him.

[00:34:31.150] If you love him, you want to spend time with him. If you love him, you want to communicate with him. So you're going to be spending time on your Bibles. You're going to become a woman of prayer. You're going to have a relationship. Jesus is going to be first in your life. And if he is first in your life, you're going to have an easy transition to loving your husband. The second thing he says is love your children.

[00:34:53.880] You think, well, that's a given, it's not a given, you know what abortion has done to women in this nation? My wife Mary and her book Choices, it's a book for women. Mary talks about the fact that women have a God given maternal instinct to nurture children. In our culture by telling women it's OK to abort their babies what we have done is we've taken a hypodermic needle of Novocain and we have numbed the maternal instinct in women.

[00:35:23.010] And we tell women that having a career is more important than loving and nurturing children. I want to tell you something. Nothing is more important than loving and nurturing children. I don't care how gifted you are. If you're going to have a family, those kids are going to need a mother. I got a quote for you. G.K. Chesterton, a brilliant man from one hundred years ago. He said this. Listen to what he says. He said, can anyone tell me two things more vital to the race than these what man, shall marry what woman? That's pretty important. And what shall be the first things taught to their child?

[00:36:09.750] Why is it that the natural operation of life surrounds a young mother with very young children who require to be taught not so much anything but everything? Babies need not to be taught a trade, but but to be introduced to a world to put the matter shortly. A woman is

generally shut up in a house with a human being at the time when he ask all the questions that there are and some that aren't.

[00:36:36.990] All Race thought it worthwhile to cast this burden on women in order to keep common sense in the world. Now go on. But when people begin to talk about this, domestic duty of mothering is not nearly difficult, but trivial and dreary. I simply give up the question, for I cannot, with the utmost energy of imagination, conceive what they mean. If drudgery only means dreadfully hard work. I admit the woman drudges in the home as a man might drudge at his work.

[00:37:05.820] But if it means that the hard work is more heavy because because it is trifling or insignificant or of small importance to the soul, then I say, give it up. How can it catch this? This is brilliant. How can it be an important career to tell others, people, other people's children about mathematics and a small career to tell your own children about the universe? A woman's function is laborious, not because it is minute that because it is gigantic.

[00:37:35.040] I will pity Mrs Jones for the hugeness of her task. I will never pity her for its smallness. There is no more function that is important than mothering. You know what mothering is? Mothering is discipleship. We spend millions of dollars in the church, discipleship conferences, discipleship magazines, discipleship. This discipleship, even the most brilliant concept of discipleship devised in the history of the Christian church is a mother discipline her children. What did Jesus do? Jesus was a disciple, you know what if Jesus went to the lake, they went with him. If Jesus went to town, they went with him. Jesus went to the bathroom. They went with him. Jesus went to Jesus, went to the mountains. They went with him. And you know what? They were always asking him stupid questions. That's being a mother, isn't it? You'll have

no time to yourself. And you're called to pour into somebody's life. I'm telling you, our culture diminishes that. I'm telling you the church of Jesus Christ needs it.

[00:38:44.920] I'm just telling you, in this culture, you are going to be faced. You are going to be faced as a Christian woman. The big issue is, well, what are you going to do? What are you going to do? And if you say I want to be I want to be a mother, you're mocked. I'm telling you, there's no career in the world that can touch being a mother. It is a brilliant strategy. Are we saying are we saying you set aside your gifts?

[00:39:10.190] We're not saying that. I'm just saying somebody needs to be a server in the home to establish motherhood. And I want to show you one other thing. He talks about in not only loving your husband's loving your wives, but catch this. And he talks about being managers of the home because the home is important. But let me show you one other thing. In verse five, to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands that the word of God may not be blasphemed.

[00:39:40.680] That word that word there that's translated chaste is the word purity. It's the same word that applied to the guys back in first, Timothy. So both to men and women, you know what the call is? The call is to be pure. You're a young man to be pure if you're a young woman to be pure. And remember, that's not just purity in sexual relationships, but it's innocence and integrity in your heart. So let me just pull this together, OK?

[00:40:09.420] Let's just let's just get this right down to brass tacks where we live. How are you doing in the purity of your heart? How are you doing? Let me ask you something. How are you doing in the innocence of your heart? I'm not talking about sleeping around, but here's what I'm talking about. What kind of movies do you watch? Do you watch movies that you wouldn't have

watched five years ago, do you watch movies where there is graphic sexuality and it doesn't affect you?

[00:40:45.340] You know, for many of us in this room, we watch things today and we go away and they have no impact on us. And, you know, they had no impact on us five years ago. They were deeply impacted you emotionally, but we have desensitized ourselves. A few weeks ago, you had the church shooting in Fort Worth. I was in the car. I was listening to the ballgame. There's a news bulletin. There's been a church shooting in Fort Worth and we've got a reporter on the scene.

[00:41:11.010] And so they're piecing all this together. I'm driving for about forty five minutes. I'm listening to this. I listen to several different kids that were in that sanctuary and they were interviewing them. And one of the reporters said, tell me what you saw. And this girl says, and here's the tone of voice. She said, Well, I heard Pops. And I thought and then we thought it was a joke and we thought there was a skit because this guy walks in and starts firing and but we thought it was a joke.

[00:41:36.300] She's very calm and collected as she's telling the story. But then we realized that he wasn't it wasn't a skit. It was real. He started shooting people and people started dropping. And my friend who was next to me took a bullet in the throat and blood spurted out and she died in my arms. This girl, I want to tell you that this girl had no tears. This girl had no emotion. It was like she was describing going to Nordstrom's and buying a sweater.

[00:42:05.540] Now, I want to tell you about that girl. That girl should have been absolutely shaken. She should have been so deeply disturbed emotionally that she would have trouble speaking. But you know what? She was as calm. She was as cool. She was as collected. Now, I

want to tell you why. And I don't even know the girl, but I think I'm right on this. I think that's a young lady that has been so desensitized to violence that when it actually occurred next to her, it had no effect or impact.

[00:42:39.180] You can be desensitized by violence and tell you what else you can be desensitized. My movies with graphic, immoral sex. Listen, I'm a married man. I've been married almost twenty five years. I can't watch that stuff because it affects me. And let me say something to you as young men. Let me say something to you. As young women, you be careful what you put in your minds. You cannot watch that stuff and not have it affect you.

[00:43:07.290] And if you can watch an intimate sexual act in a movie, in a dorm on this campus and it doesn't trouble you, something is wrong. You have lost innocence. You know what the spirit of God wants to do here? He wants to restore innocence. The spirit of God wants to restore purity. The spirit of God wants to bring holiness into our lives. He wants to bring a purity of spirit, not to live as the world lives.

[00:43:34.740] He wants to bring a sensitivity to the Holy Spirit of the living God. You cannot put that trash in your minds. You cannot afford to do that. Somebody needs to raise the standard. Somebody needs to say that's not right. Somebody needs to say in the dorm when something that comes on is inappropriate, someone needs to get up and leave. Someone needs to be a leader. Someone needs to show the right way. Someone needs to seek purity.

[00:44:03.150] That's what needs to happen. It's just not believing the Bible. It's obeying the Bible. What kind of marriage do you want to have one day? What kind of relationship do you want to have with your kids? You know what? We've got to be people of purity and it's got to start now while we're young. So let's pray. Father, we live in a culture. Where wickedness and in

morality, there's never been a culture in the history of the world where wickedness and immorality have been so easily available.

[00:44:45.540] We've all been affected. And every time we see it and we're convicted in our heart, yet we don't respond, we harden our hearts and then we look at it again and we harden our hearts. We didn't desensitize ourselves to your Holy Spirit when that kind of immorality grieves your spirit and quenches your spirit. Father, we are inundated with this through the Internet, through videos. And the fact of the matter is there isn't much difference anymore between Christian college students and non Christian college students and what we watch, in most cases, that's the truth.

[00:45:58.070] I pray that your spirit will speak individually. I pray that there will be conviction. Whether Sen.. Because you want us to be examples, you want us to be innocent in our spirit and in our minds, you want us to seek purity as young men and young women. And I pray that you would give us I pray that there would be some men in here that you would put in their heart a passion for purity, a passion to be men of God, that you would put a wall of holiness around, a wall of fire around them, of the holiness of God. And I pray for young women that you do the same thing. Christianity is an issue of the heart, and we cannot allow our hearts to be hardened or impure and to quench your spirit.

[00:46:50.880] So may you speak to us, may you deal with us. May this be an issue of discussion in dorms, in rooms with friends? May we may we talk about this and encourage one another in spirit so that we might be men and women of God in a culture that has fallen apart and we might show the distinctness and the beauty and the majesty of the purity of Jesus Christ in his name. We pray.