

# To Be Good . . . Obedient To Their Own Husbands ~ *Two More Good Things For Women To Learn*

We have come to the end of our studies on the “good things” that God wants the younger women to learn from the older women in Titus 2:5. And as we study these last two “things”, I can’t help but think of that little phrase that says, *“last, but not least,”* because although “to be good,” and “obedient to their own husbands,” are the last good things on the list, they are probably a summation of all the things that God wants women to learn about how to be a good wife and bring honor and glory to His name.

Please turn with me to Titus 2:1-5 as we remind ourselves of the purpose for which we are learning these good things.

It is good for us (as women) to understand both the WHAT and the WHY about the things that God wants us to do. The what helps us to do what we are supposed to, and the why reminds us of the importance of doing it.

Today we are looking at how “to be good”, and “obedient to our own husbands.”

What do you think God means when He says that He wants us “to be good”?

The word *good* simply means just what it says ~ to be good. The implication in this passage is that we are to learn to do the things that we are supposed to be doing.

So far, as we have studied Titus 2:3-5, what have we learned that a good woman should be doing?

We have learned that she should be behaving in a manner that is sober, discreet, and chaste; and she should be living in a manner that proves that she loves her husband, loves her children, and keeps her home. These are the things that God measures us against when He decides if we are behaving good or not.

Do you find it very easy to be a “good woman” by God’s standard?

Do you think a woman can do all of these good things and NOT be obedient to her own husband?

I do. I think it is very easy for a woman to be good and not obey what her husband says. Many women of our day behave soberly, discreetly, keep themselves chaste, keep a good home, love their husband and love their children, and don’t think twice about **disobeying** the leadership of their husbands in the areas of finances, clothing, lifestyle, education, the running of the home, and family worship.

What do you think this kind of “good behavior” looks like to the husband that won’t be obeyed?

It looks like **SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS**. And it is expressed by husbands with phrases like these ~ *“She thinks she is perfect.” “Well, excuse me because I don’t know everything like you do.” “She is a good woman, but she is not the woman for me.”*

I have to be honest with you, for many years of my own marriage I thought it was enough for me to be good, without being obedient to my husband. I thought it was his responsibility to get on board with the

way that I wanted things done, and I couldn't understand when he was less than thrilled with who I was as his wife.

And then someone gave me a copy of a little book entitled, "Me, Obey Him", and my whole way of looking at my role in marriage began to change. I began to understand that although the many things that I was doing were right, they were not ALL right in the eyes of the Lord.

Let me share with you a few of the verses that God used to challenge me when I thought that it was all right to be good, and not obedient to my husband's wishes:

1. Proverbs 14:12
2. Proverbs 16:25
3. Proverbs 21:2

The Bible teaches us that whenever we think we are "good enough" to obey **ourselves**, rather than **our own husbands**, that this kind of "right thinking" leads to death in some area of our lives.

Let's talk about some of the things that can "die" in the life of a woman that is *good, without being obedient to her own husband* ~

1. Her relationship with her husband.
2. Her testimony as a wife.
3. Her good example to the children.
4. Her opportunity to bring honor and glory to God and His Word.

You know, dear ladies, God has ordained everything in this universe to be run in a decent and orderly fashion, and His primary tool for making sure that this happens is to place someone in authority over everything that He has created. In every area of life, there is always someone that needs to be in charge in order to avoid chaos. A nation needs a government ruler. A church needs a pastor. A classroom needs a teacher. And the home needs a man in the house to be the husband and father. The Bible reminds us of this truth in Ephesians 5:22, "*Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.*" The Bible makes it clear that the head of every woman is the man, and in the home, this means that the husband is the head of the wife.

For many women, this is a hard truth to swallow. Why do you think this is so?

I think it is because of all of the feministic nonsense that we have been fed that tells us that there are no differences between girls and boys, and that it doesn't matter who does the leading, just as long as whoever does it is the most qualified.

But God has something very different to say to the woman that wants to be a good wife:

*"Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord."*  
*Colossians 3:18*

*"Likewise, ye wives, be in subjection to your own husbands;"*  
*1 Peter 3:1a*

If you and I are going to bring glory to the Word of God, we are going to have to learn not only how to be good, but how to be good AND obedient to our own husbands. And the easiest way to make sure we are doing this is to JUST DO WHAT HE SAYS. If he says that he wants to spend the money in a cer-

tain way, let him spend it. If he says that he wants the family to live in a certain location, be willing to live there. If he says that he wants the kids educated in a certain manner, make sure that they learn that way. And if he says that he wants your home run in a certain fashion, do everything that you can to run it that way.

Obedience to our own husbands is really that simple . . . but it's not always that easy, is it?

It takes a real faith in God (and in the power of His Word) for many of us to be able to trust a man that we **know** is sinful and less than perfect. After all, isn't it so much easier to trust in ourselves (*who we think will do best*), than in a man that makes us wonder '*what will he do next*'?

Of course it is. But God doesn't want us to live our lives doing what is the easiest thing to do . . . He wants us to commit ourselves to doing what is the right thing to do. Why? Because He knows that this is what will bring Him the most glory, and us the most happiness.

As we close this study and this series on the "good things" that God wants women to learn, I am reminded of the truth of Proverbs 24:4 that tells us that our homes will be filled with "all precious and pleasant riches" if we are willing to be knowledgeable about things like being good and obeying our own husbands. And what are some of these precious and pleasant riches that will fill our homes? A good marriage. Obedient children. A happy spirit. A good testimony. Favor with God. And an opportunity to honor God's Word.

Next week we will learn how to become women of balance as we study the lives of Mary and Martha in Luke chapter 10.

Hope to see you next week!

*Julie Fink*

More than anything, I want to learn how to be good and obey my husband. I want to honor God with the testimony of my life and I want to obey my husband while I live on this earth. But there have been **many** times when this has been a **very hard** thing for me to do . . . especially when being obedient to my husband **conflicts** with my being able to do something that I think is good. Here is a journal account of one of those times . . .

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*“Mom, are you going to miss us when we go back to school? After all, we have been home with you for the past six years.” said my daughter Sabrina (who was 15 years old at the time).*

*How was I supposed to answer her question? After six years of homeschooling, my husband was allowing her (and her older sister) to finish their high school education at our local church’s school. And she wanted to know if I was going to miss them.*

*Of course I was going to miss them! They have been my buddies for the past six years, and I have thoroughly enjoyed having them around. We have laughed together, cried together, learned together, and become frustrated together. We have been able to serve together, rest together, sing together, and grow up spiritually together. These two girls have become my closest friends and buddies, and yes, I was sure going to miss them.*

*“MOM!” my daughter loudly spoke again, interrupting my thoughts, “Didn’t you hear me? I asked you if you were going to miss us when we go back to school? After all, we HAVE been at home with you for the past six years!”*

*“Yes, Sabrina,” I answered through tear filled eyes and a throat that muffled a sob, “I will miss you two a lot. I have enjoyed the years that we have been home together, and I’m sure going to miss having you two around. But I’m happy that you are getting the opportunity to go back to school. I know that it is something that you want, and something that your Dad wants you to do.”*

*With that reply she gave me a hug and went back to doing whatever she had been doing before. When she left is when I started to cry.*

*You see, I wasn’t really happy that they were going back to school. Actually, I was very disappointed about it. I wanted them to stay home and homeschool a little bit longer. I wanted them to continue until they finished their high school education.*

*But their Dad said that they could go back to school, and they were glad. And I should’ve been glad too. I knew that he didn’t make this decision lightly. I knew that he fasted and prayed about it, and I knew that the decision that he made was based on the fact that he believed this to be God’s will.*

*Now it was my turn to believe. But I didn’t want to believe. I was happy with God’s call for our family to homeschool, and I was VERY disappointed that my husband had believed that this call had changed.*

Well, it has been four years since my husband made that decision, and even though I STILL don’t like the decision that he made, **I sure am glad that I chose to obey it.** Why? Because my willingness to obey my husband in this area did wonders in allowing my children to be able to glory in their father and feel secure that they could rest in that fact that HE was the head of our home. And it brought so much peace and security to our home.

The Bible tells us in Proverbs 17:6 that ***“the glory of children are their fathers”*** ~ *not their mothers*. Our children ***were created with a need*** to find glory in following ***their father’s direction*** (instead of ours), and believing that his way (rather than ours) is best. And when we stand up for what we think is good, at the point of not obeying the things that our husbands say that we should ~ we rob our children of the opportunity to experience that peace and security that comes from knowing ***“that father knows best”***.