

She Can Laugh At The Days To Come...

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What do you think when you look at this picture? Do you think this lady is feeling overwhelmed, anxious, inadequate, and exhausted? It is difficult to look at this picture and think this woman has it all together, because it is apparent that she is struggling!

As women, we often struggle in our daily duties, but we can look to the Proverbs 31 woman as an example and take time for ourselves to learn how to live our lives from a biblical standpoint. How do we obey God and follow Him in everyday living?

Five things we can do to help us stay focused and follow God's Word:

1. Obey God's Word; Take time to read the Bible, even if it has to be read in small portions at a time.
2. Pray without ceasing; Pray when getting out of bed in the morning, throughout the day, when dealing with life's problems, when feeling anxious or stressed.
3. Be devoted to the fellowship of other believers; bearing one another's burdens, lifting up others in prayer and encouraging them.
4. Serve others; love your neighbor as yourself!
5. Desire to be more like Christ; cling to the power of Jesus' blood and fear the Lord.

The book of Proverbs focuses on everyday living according to God's Word and provides us with answers. This is what the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not consider his appearance or his height, for I have rejected him" (1 Samuel 16:7, NIV).

People look at the outward appearance, but the Lord is not looking at things that people look at, He looks at the heart! In this chapter, God led the prophet Samuel to Bethlehem to anoint David as His chosen king for Israel. God had instructed Samuel to allow his heart to guide him in selecting the chosen one.

Throughout Scripture, we often see that the heart points to our thoughts, emotions, and desires. The heart is where God looks when He sees us! The heart is vital to our physical lives and to our spiritual lives. We could spend so many hours attempting to penetrate our daily lives with all the activity we read about in Proverbs 31, but unless we change our hearts, our attitudes and actions may never compare to the example given in the Proverbs 31 woman.

God is far more interested in our intentions from our hearts than in our actions. Yes! Our actions are very important, but before we can generate actions that glorify God, we must have our hearts situated and prepared to respond to Him. God's Word will lift and encourage our hearts, putting us in a committed place and making us capable of standing and enduring in difficult times so that we may have confidence and purpose in everything we do in life.

Once our hearts are prepared and focused on God, we can understand this verse, "She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come" (Proverbs 31:25, NIV).

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