

wellspring

"Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life." Proverbs 4:23

Name: _____

February 8 & 11, 2023

Lesson 11

(D2:the Home & D3:Ministry) HOSPITALITY

DUE:

Wednesday, February 22 / Saturday, February 25

LOOKING BACK...

Review your notes from the lesson then pick two of the 13 characteristics of hospitality and spend time on each of the two doing at least the following:

1. Read the Bible verses associated with the characteristic. Can you think of others? Write some observations
2. What do these verses reveal about God?
3. Pray, thanking God for who He has revealed Himself to be toward you in the gospel
4. How should these verses affect your use of your home? (list 2-3 specific points of application)

5. Make specific plans for application in the near future. Communicate those to your spouse, roommate, or other.

6. Pray.

LOOKING AHEAD...

In preparation for lesson 12, D2 - THE HOME: Biblical Womanhood: Pray, asking God to help you understand what His Word says about His image and its implications for the believing woman. Read "Looking Deeper," below, surveying what God's Word says about the image of God. What is at least one thing from the supplement you found to be helpful?

LOOKING DEEPER...**The Image of God**

We can only understand God's design for women by looking to His Word. Read the following passages, looking specifically for what each says about the image or likeness of God.

God created man in His own image, according to His own likeness.

Gen 1:26-28 - Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." God created man in His own image, in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. God blessed them; and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it; and rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

After sin entered the world (Gen 3), the image of God in man was severely corrupted (though not completely destroyed). Notice the contrast between the "old self" and the "new self" in Eph 4:21-24.

Eph 4:21-24 - if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the **old self**, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the **new self**, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

Jesus is the image of the invisible God; to understand what the image of God is, we must look to Him.

Col 1:15 - **He is the image of the invisible God**, the firstborn of all creation.

2 Co 4:4 - in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of **Christ, who is the image of God**.

Heb 1:3 - And **He is the radiance of His glory and the exact representation of His nature**, and upholds all things by the word of His power. When He had made purification of sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high,

Jn 14:9 - Jesus said to him, "Have I been so long with you, and yet you have not come to know Me, Philip? **He who has seen Me has seen the Father**; how can you say, 'Show us the Father'?

Through salvation in Jesus Christ, the image of God is increasingly restored in believers.

Rom 8:28-29 - And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose. For those whom He foreknew, **He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son**, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren;

2Co 3:18 - But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, **are being transformed into the same image** from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

Jesus displayed God's image through humble, self-giving love (NOTE: The word "form" is very similar to the idea of "image" or "likeness.")

Phl 2:5-8 - Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in **the form of God**, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the **form of a bond-servant**, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Believers are to imitate Christ's self-giving love.

Eph 5:1-2 - Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children; and walk in love, just as Christ also loved you and gave Himself up for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God as a fragrant aroma.

Believers have been taught in Christ to put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

Eph 4:24 - (you have been taught in Him to...) put on the new self, which in **the likeness of God** has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth.

SUMMARY:

- Man was created in the image of God, male and female.
- Sin, though it did not completely annihilate the image of God in man, nonetheless severely distorted and corrupted it.
- Christ is the image of God; He reveals what the image of God is.
- Through faith in Christ, man is restored to bearing God's image.
- Christ displayed God's image in His humble, self-giving love, obeying God to the point of death on a cross.
- Believers are commanded to imitate the self-giving love of Christ.
- The believer's "new self" is created in the image of God, in righteousness and holiness of the truth.
- **The image of God in believers includes displaying Christ's humble, self-giving love, His righteousness, and His holiness.**

NOTE - The passages above have been highlighted in this brief survey of the image of God for the purpose of preparing us to better understand Biblical Womanhood. In addition to these passages, there are other issues relating to the image of God in man which are not covered here, including:

1. The ways in which reproduction and rule are related to bearing God's image (Ge 1:26-28; Ps 8:4-8).
2. The implications of man being created in the image of God on how people are to be valued even after the fall (Ge 9:6; Js 3:9).

Wellspring Kids Memory Verse:

John 20:31

"But these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God,
and that by believing you may have life in His name." (ESV)