

Heart Attitudes: Purity

Titus 2:4-5 ...so that they may instruct the young women in sensibility; to love their husbands, to love their children, to be sensible, *pure*, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be slandered...

I. Pursuing Titus 2 womanhood: looking back and looking forward

II. Titus 2 purity

A. For the unmarried woman: sexual purity, chastity

1. Cor. 7:34-35 propriety and undistracted devotion to the Lord

Seeking the Lord's wisdom (James 1), she can make use of this special blessing building her life with gold, silver, precious stones (1 Cor. 3:12)

B. For the married woman: marital fidelity

Mindset of devotion, commitment, fidelity to her husband

Exclusivity of marriage and the good kind of jealousy

Fresh water Proverbs 5:15 – 19

1 Cor. 7:4-5

Other expressions of devotion, commitment to husband

III. Application

1 Thess. 4:3

1 Cor. 6:18-20

Matt. 15:15-20

Prov. 4:23

Thought life

Attitudes and emotions

Proper behavior

Teaching our children the priority of purity

Teaching our children modesty, true beauty 1 Tim. 2:9, 1 Peter 3:1-4, Prov. 31:30

IV. How do we do it?

The Word of God: our fuel for obedience Psalm 119:9-10

Isaiah 45:5-9 a high and holy view of God

Martha Peace "Because God is God and supreme ruler over all His creation, He decides what His creatures may and may not do. . . . It is God who determined the role of the wife and how she may best glorify Him through righteous, gracious submission to her husband (Eph. 5:22-24). God set the standards. He has determined what is sin and what is righteousness."

Understand what God values. 1 John 2:15-17 Isaiah 66:2

Discussion Questions – Psalm 119 Edition

Where do I need to change my thinking to be more aligned with God's way? What attitudes need a makeover? Does my behavior slander the word of God?

Psalm 119:29 Remove the false way from me, and graciously grant me Your law.

Psalm 119:112 I have inclined my heart to do Your statutes forever, to the end.

Psalm 119:130 The unfolding of Your words gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.

Psalm 119:144 Righteous are Your testimonies forever; give me understanding that I may live.

Do I have a careless attitude toward His word? What do my actions and speech say about this?

Psalm 119:5 Oh may my ways be established to keep Your statutes!

Psalm 119:20 My soul is crushed with longing for Your judgments at all times.

Psalm 119:103 How sweet is Your word to my taste! Sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Psalm 119: 125 I am Your slave; give me understanding, that I may know Your testimonies.

Psalm 119:172 Let my tongue answer with Your word, for all Your commandments are righteous.

Zechariah 7 was written to exiled Judah under Persian rule about 520 BC. They had the word of God, but they “*refused to give heed and turned a stubborn shoulder and dulled their ears from hearing. And they made their hearts diamond-hard so that they could not hear the law . . . therefore great wrath came from Yahweh of hosts.*” (Zech. 7:11-12) Are there areas in my life where I’ve dulled my ears and hardened my heart to the word of God?

Fostering a hunger and a love for the word of God

1. Pray for your own desire, understanding, wisdom, and focus. We are commanded to “long for the pure milk of the word, so that by it you may grow in respect to salvation.” (1 Peter 2:2)

Psalm 119:18 Open my eyes, that I may behold wonderful things from Your law.

Psalm 119:111 I have inherited Your testimonies forever, for they are the joy of my heart.

Psalm 119:127 Therefore I love Your commandments above gold, even above fine gold.

Psalm 119:167 My soul keeps Your testimonies, and I love them exceedingly.

2. Get rid of distractions – exert self-control with phone time! Pay close attention to things that make your mind or body sluggish, and take practical steps to be at your best. (Do I stay up too late, to the point I can't focus on anything the next morning? Am I eating or drinking things that make me jittery, or foggy, or affect my mind in some other way?) Don't let the good intentions die—make concrete step-by-step plans where needed.

Psalm 119:37 Cause my eyes to turn away from looking at worthlessness, and revive me in Your ways.

Psalm 119:59 I thought upon my ways and I turned my feet to Your testimonies.

3. Spend a portion of your time in Psalm 119 every day. PRAY through Psalm 119. We *need* the Lord's work in us, in order to read, understand and obey. Read *slowly* to savor and absorb all that you can! Also read Psalm 1 and Jeremiah 17:5-8. Am I a desert juniper, or a fruit-bearing tree fed by the river? Don't be a spiritual succulent! We need regular heavy doses of the Word of God.

Psalm 119:62 At midnight I shall rise to give thanks to You because of Your righteous judgments

Psalm 119:81 My soul fails with longing for Your salvation; I wait for Your word.

Psalm 119:82 My eyes fail with longing for Your word, saying, "When will You comfort me?"

4. Consider ways you might need to revamp your schedule/activities/hobbies/ministry involvements to prioritize your intake of the word. Map out practical steps to make this happen. (Do I need to go to bed/get up a little earlier each day? Am I overcommitted with activities? Pray for wisdom, talk to your husband about potential changes.) Don't be afraid to say "no" to less important things so that you can soak in the all-important, eternal, life-changing, living word of God.

Psalm 119:66 Teach me good discernment and knowledge, for I believe in Your commandments.

Psalm 119:97 Oh how I love Your law! It is my meditation all the day.

5. Am I passing the test with the trials the Lord has given me? Do I justify a bad attitude, anger, unforgiveness, or laziness with my time in the word—or do I cast all my anxiety on Him (1 Peter 5:7), and set Him as my refuge (Psalm 73:28)?

Psalm 119:50 This is my comfort in my affliction, that Your word has revived me.

Psalm 119:67 Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I keep Your word.

Psalm 119:71 It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I may learn Your statutes.

Psalm 119:92 If Your law had not been my delight, then I would have perished in my affliction.

Psalm 119:114 You are my hiding place and my shield; I wait for Your word.

Psalm 119:153 See my affliction and rescue me, for I do not forget Your law.

Psalm 119:143 Trouble and anguish have found me, yet Your commandments are my delight.

Psalm 119:165 Those who love Your law have much peace, and nothing causes them to stumble.

Psalms 119:33-40 (LSB)

Instruct me, O Yahweh, in the way of Your statutes, That I may observe it to the end.
Cause me to understand, that I may observe Your law And keep it with all my heart.
Cause me to walk in the path of Your commandments, For I delight in it.
Cause my heart to incline to Your testimonies And not to *dishonest* gain.
Cause my eyes to turn away from looking at worthlessness, And revive me in Your ways.
Cause Your word to be established for Your slave, As that which produces fear for You.
Cause my reproach which I dread to pass away, For Your judgments are good.
Behold, I long for Your precepts; Revive me in Your righteousness.