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THE PROVERBIAL MOTHER (A RECIPE FOR WOMANHOOD FROM PROVERBS 31) Marriage Matters

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Part 4 of 7

Proverbs 31:10-31

I. THE POWER OF YOUR FIDELITY.

Proverbs 31:10-12

“It is hard to find a good wife, because she is worth more than rubies. Her husband trusts her completely. With her, he has everything he needs. She does him good and not harm for as long as she lives.” (NCV)

Faithfulness is the number one ingredient for a wife of noble character.

The purity of her inner life and the radiance of her personality bring credit to her husband.

THE QUESTION TO ASK:

Can my husband and children trust me?

II. THE POWER OF YOUR INDUSTRY.

Proverbs 31:13-19

“She looks for wool and flax and likes to work with her hands. She is like a trader’s ship, bringing food from far away. She gets up while it is still dark and prepares food for her family and feeds her servant girls. She inspects a field and buys it. With money she earned, she plants a vineyard. She does her work with energy, and her arms are strong. She knows that what she makes is good. Her lamp burns late into the night. She makes thread with her hands and weaves her own cloth.” (NCV)

The Proverbs 31 woman was what we would call a domestic engineer.

Outside her home:

- She participated in business ventures.
- She represented her husband’s interests.
- She transported products.
- She managed foreign currency
- She bought property.
- She trained her household staff.

Inside her home:

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She rises early to prepare for the day.
She makes sure her family is fed.
She is hardworking and energetic.
She is frugal in her spending.

THE QUESTIONS TO ASK:

1. Do I spend my time and resources wisely?
2. What results do I have to show from my labor?

III. THE POWER OF YOUR MINISTRY.

Proverbs 31:20-23

"She welcomes the poor and helps the needy. She does not worry about her family when it snows, because they all have fine clothes to keep them warm. She makes coverings for herself; her clothes are made of linen and other expensive material. Her husband is known at the city meetings, where he makes decisions as one of the leaders of the land." (NCV)

She ministered to the poor and needy.
She ministered to her household and family.

THE QUESTIONS TO ASK:

1. Are my hands busy in an effective ministry to my family and others?
2. What memories will my children have of my hands?

IV. THE POWER OF YOUR SPIRITUALITY

Proverbs 31:24-29

She makes linen clothes and sells them and provides belts to the merchants. She is strong and is respected by the people. She looks forward to the future with joy. She speaks wise words and teaches others to be kind. She watches over her family and never wastes her time. Her children speak well of her. Her husband also praises her, saying, "There are many fine women, but you are better than all of them." (NCV)

HER EXAMPLE: Most of us serving the Lord today have been blessed by the touch of a godly woman.

You may be a woman of fidelity, industry and ministry, but knowing God makes you a very powerful woman in your world.

THE QUESTIONS TO ASK:

1. Am I a woman of God?
2. Do I spend quality time in God's Word and prayer?

V. THE PROMISE OF PRAISE.

Proverbs 31:28-31

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“Her children speak well of her. Her husband also praises her, saying, ‘There are many fine women, but you are better than all of them.’ Charm can fool you, and beauty can trick you, but a woman who respects the LORD should be praised. Give her the reward she has earned; she should be praised in public for what she has done.” (NCV)

She was praised by her children.

She was praised by her husband.

She was praised by her peers.

THE QUESTIONS TO ASK:

1. Am I praised and loved by my family?
2. Do I express appreciation to the godly women in my life?

CONCLUSION:

A Recipe for Womanhood From Proverbs 31	
Fidelity	Trust and Loyalty Proverbs 31:10-12
Industry	Stewardship and Resourcefulness Proverbs 31:13-19
Ministry	Service and Sacrifice Proverbs 31:20-23
Spirituality	Godliness and Inner Beauty Proverbs 31:24-31
RESULTS of MIXTURE: Promise of Praise	