

LESSON THREE: Betrothed to Purity

Opening Prayer

Heavenly Father, we thank you for this time you have provided for us to come together to hear from you and have fellowship in your Word and to learn and apply your Word to our hearts. We need you, Lord. We need your grace all the time. We praise you for your goodness and your love and mercy. Please open our hearts to you and to one another and lead our discussion. Help us not to fear, but to put all of our hope in Christ. Help us to remember there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. May you be glorified in all our thoughts and words and deeds. In Jesus' name, Amen.

I. LECTURE

Will someone share how the Lord used the lecture to speak to your heart? Did anyone have any questions or concerns about the lecture? If you ever have a question or something is unclear, please let us know. We want to serve you in any way we can!

II. PLEASE READ THE MAIN POINT FROM THIS WEEK'S HOMEWORK

We are all first and foremost betrothed to Christ. Our hearts were knit to His in salvation. We are one in Him and with Him. Our understanding of true purity, fidelity, and covenant love begins with Him. We must take these foundational truths to heart, live in them fully, and enjoy Him fully. As we seek purity and physical intimacy as the Lord intended it, we want to keep our minds and our hearts in communion with the Lord – to please Him and not ourselves. We are called to be holy as He is holy. Therefore, we must take a good hard look at what our eyes are doing, what our minds are thinking, and what our hearts are hiding. Wandering eyes, minds and hearts damages our oneness with Christ and with one another and hinders intimacy. True intimacy begins with Christ. Physical intimacy between spouses is a picture of our intimacy with Christ. Sex as created by God is a wonderful gift to us and all for His glory. The path to true intimacy is found when two people, united in marriage by God, are following Christ in absolute surrender to Him as their Lord. It is found in the midst of a pure, covenant relationship with God and with each other lived out by daily walking in the footsteps of grace, servanthood, unconditional love, mercy, and sacrifice. This is true biblical love. Self will fight against this union, but we must put self to death to pursue oneness with Christ and with one another. This is a process. As we hear Jesus' words to us in the Sermon on the Mount and take them to heart, we will begin experiencing true kingdom living and true appropriate intimacy with our Lord and with our husbands, which will impact the intimacy we have in other relationships as well.

III. QUESTIONS FROM THE HOMEWORK

1. Go through the homework, occasionally calling on women. Read scriptures aloud. After asking a question, remember to allow a brief period of quiet "wait-time" to give women a chance to think before answering. After pausing, if no one shares, go ahead with your answer, rephrase question, and/or move on.

DAY ONE Devotion: Betrothed to Purity

2. Would someone please share what spoke to your heart from Day One?

DAY TWO

3. **Quiet Moment** - Read Matthew 5:27-30. Do you find yourself going places in your mind that you really shouldn't? What or who is taking the place reserved only for the Lord or your husband? A career, a hobby, your children, or a friend?

4. **Going Deeper Question #2** - What does Solomon say to his son? What can we learn?
5. **Question #3** - Where do you see difficulties in your relationship with the Lord or with your husband? Where do you need to make adjustments?

DAY THREE

6. **Quiet Moment** - How can you foster more of the right kind of desire for your husband? How might it look in your relationship with the Lord?
7. **Going Deeper Question #1** - What is the progression of sin we can observe in David's life? What did you learn that you can apply to your own life or to help your children as they grow into teenagers?

DAY FOUR

8. **Quiet Moment** - What does it mean to leave and cleave? Have you "left" everything to follow and cleave to the Lord and to your husband? What have you not "left"?
9. **Going Deeper Question #3** - Will someone vulnerably share an area in your marriage relationship where you continue to struggle, fall short, or fail? If you are single, please share where you continue to struggle with sin, selfishness, pride, or control..
10. **Question #4** - Would someone share how it went sharing your list of "hot buttons" with your husband?

DAY FIVE

11. **Quiet Moment** - Have you been able to look at your heart, or are you afraid? Do you find that there is only partial obedience to His Word? In what area do you struggle the most?
12. **Going Deeper Question #2** - Would someone share one example of what it could look like in day-to-day life with your husband if you really focused on living out oneness in your marriage?
13. **Question #5** - Will someone share the plans you made for a special night with your husband or Lord?

IV. PLEASE RECITE YOUR SCRIPTURE MEMORY VERSES TOGETHER

V. TAKING THE TRUTH TO HEART TIME

We will now focus on taking God's truth to our hearts and bringing it to life. James 5:16a states; "Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed." And 1 Peter 2:24 says, "He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed."

Please turn to your Taking the Truth to Heart and Bringing It to Life page. We will each have 3 minutes so that every woman will have a chance to share. Please record one another's confessions on the Taking the Truth to Heart Guide on the following page so you can pray for one another throughout the week. Leaders, please set the example by always going first.

VI. PLEASE CLOSE IN PRAYER