

# CLC Host's Personal Meeting Room

## Overview

This women's Bible study session focused on understanding the inherent value and worth of kingdom women through the lens of Scripture, particularly Proverbs 31. The group explored how women's value comes from God rather than external validation, productivity, or societal expectations. The discussion centered on recognizing and internalizing one's God-given worth while rejecting false identities imposed by others or cultural pressures.

## Key Concepts or Theories:

- **Intrinsic Value:** Women possess inherent worth as daughters of God, established before birth and confirmed through Christ's sacrifice
- **Kingdom Woman Identity:** A woman whose reverence for God determines her actions, thoughts, words, and priorities
- **Seasons of Life:** Understanding that the Proverbs 31 woman represents qualities expressed across different life seasons, not all simultaneously
- **Vertical vs. Horizontal Relationships:** Prioritizing relationship with God (vertical) over human approval (horizontal)
- **Rest as Sacred:** Recognizing that productivity does not equal worth; rest and Sabbath are built into God's design

## Important Questions Raised:

- How do external voices and societal expectations shape our self-perception versus what God says about our value?
- Are we trying to earn value through productivity and performance rather than resting in our God-given worth?
- How can single women relate to and apply the Proverbs 31 passage to their lives?
- What does it mean to fear the Lord as the foundation of being a kingdom woman?
- How do we balance being capable and productive without falling into burnout or people-pleasing?

# Key Takeaways and Summary of Learning Objectives

- A woman's value is intrinsic and comes from being created in God's image, not from accomplishments, relationships, or others' opinions
- The Proverbs 31 woman represents qualities lived out across different seasons of life, not a checklist to complete simultaneously
- Fearing the Lord and maintaining intimacy with Him is the foundation of being a kingdom woman
- Women should not internalize negative labels or seek validation through excessive productivity
- Rest, wisdom, and joy should characterize a kingdom woman's work, not exhaustion and burnout
- God is described as our first husband, meeting needs that earthly relationships cannot fulfill
- True freedom comes from understanding one's identity in Christ rather than seeking approval from others

## Topic 1: Understanding Our God-Given Value

The session began with an exploration of how women often internalize negative messages about themselves from family, society, and even church culture. Participants shared personal examples of being labeled "too sensitive," "too controlling," or feeling pressure to shrink themselves for others' comfort. The discussion revealed how these external validations or invalidations can shape self-perception in ways that contradict biblical truth.

The group examined the analogy from Tony Evans' video of a woman on an antique roadshow who keeps increasing the price of her table as she realizes its true value. This illustrated how women should recognize and claim their worth as God sees them. The appraiser in the story pulls out the Bible as the "owner's manual" that verifies the woman's true value, declaring her "worth far beyond rubies" and "a priceless treasure" as a daughter of God.

Multiple Scripture passages were read to establish the biblical foundation for women's value: Psalm 139:13-16 describes being knit together in the womb with every day planned before birth; Isaiah 1:18 promises cleansing from sin; Jeremiah 31:3 declares God's everlasting love; and Luke 12:6-7 affirms that women are more valuable than many sparrows, with even the hairs on their heads numbered. These passages collectively demonstrate that value is established by God's love and creative intent, not by human achievement or approval.

## Relevant Q&A

Angela: How does being a single mom for 16+ years and taking on both male and female roles affect the ability to relinquish control when a man wants to step in?

Response: This represents a common struggle with control and the difficulty of trusting others after being self-sufficient. The group affirmed this as a learned behavior from necessity, not necessarily a character flaw, but something to bring before God for wisdom.

Stacia: Is being "too sensitive" actually a flaw, or is it how God made me to feel deeply?

Response: The group affirmed that feeling deeply reflects God's own nature—Jesus wept and felt deeply for people. What others label as weakness may actually be a God-given strength. The key is not letting others' discomfort with your sensitivity define your identity.

## **Topic 2: The Proverbs 31 Woman Reframed**

The group engaged in a detailed reading and discussion of Proverbs 31, beginning with the often-overlooked introduction that identifies this as King Lemuel recalling wisdom his mother taught him. This framing was significant—a king crediting his mother's teaching and describing the kind of woman worth seeking. The passage was read in its entirety to capture the full context rather than starting at verse 10 as is commonly done.

The discussion emphasized that the Proverbs 31 woman should not be viewed as an impossible standard or exhaustive to-do list. Instead, she represents a woman who knows her value, operates from wisdom rather than frantic busyness, and does everything as unto the Lord. Her strength comes from fearing God, not from superhuman ability to multitask perfectly. The group noted that she works joyfully, strategically, and with purpose—not out of obligation or to prove her worth.

Tony Evans' teaching clarified that the Proverbs 31 woman is not perfect and that kingdom women are not called to do everything simultaneously. Life flows through different seasons with different demands and opportunities. The key is being cognizant of one's current season and allowing God to prioritize tasks accordingly. Trying to do everything at once leads to burnout and bitterness rather than the joy and peace that should characterize a woman walking in her God-given purpose.

The final verse of Proverbs 31 was highlighted as the foundation: "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised." This reverence for God determines everything else—actions, thoughts, words, and priorities. Without this foundation, the demands of life would overwhelm any woman.

## **Relevant Q&A**

Question: How do single women relate to Proverbs 31 when it emphasizes the husband's role?

Response: Single women are married to Christ as their first husband. The passage applies to all women because it's fundamentally about knowing your value and living with Christ at the center. Whether married or single, women serve their communities, use their gifts, and make Christ known through their lives. The husband references can be understood as making Christ "well known at the gates" through how we live.

Question: Doesn't the Proverbs 31 woman seem to be doing too much? How is that sustainable?

Response: She's not doing everything simultaneously—these are qualities expressed across seasons of life. The key is that she operates from wisdom, knowing what God is calling her to in each season. She works joyfully and strategically, not frantically. When we feel overwhelmed and burnt out, that's a sign we're doing too much in our own strength rather than following God's guidance.

### **Topic 3: Rejecting Productivity as Identity**

A significant portion of the discussion centered on the cultural pressure, particularly for women and minorities, to prove worth through constant productivity and achievement. Multiple participants shared personal testimonies of leaving higher-paying jobs, reducing work hours, or making other counter-cultural choices to prioritize time, relationships, and spiritual health over financial gain or career advancement.

Brittany shared her recent decision to return to a previous job with lower pay but better hours, recognizing she had been trying to "prosper herself" through productivity rather than trusting God's provision. She described how the constant rushing affected her relationship with her son and prevented her from being present. Her testimony illustrated the freedom found in choosing time over money and trusting that God will provide when we align with His priorities.

The group discussed how society—and sometimes even church culture—sends messages that women must constantly do more to have value. This is compounded for minorities who have historically had to prove their worth in the face of discrimination. However, the gospel message is that value is inherent, given by God before any action is taken. The group emphasized that rest is sacred, built into creation's rhythm through the Sabbath, and that God often has to "sit us down" when we won't rest voluntarily.

Several participants shared experiences of God orchestrating circumstances—like internet outages or health issues—to force rest when they wouldn't choose it themselves. This led to discussions about the importance of listening to God's guidance about how to spend time and energy rather than defaulting to cultural expectations of constant hustle and achievement.

### **Relevant Q&A**

Question: How do we break free from the cycle of trying to gain value through productivity?

Response: It starts with truly believing and internalizing that your value is already established by God. Spending time in His presence, studying Scripture about your identity, and practicing rest are essential. It also requires recognizing when you're operating from fear or trying to prove something versus when you're operating from a place of security in God's love.

Question: What about the pressure to build generational wealth and provide for family?

Response: God promises to provide for our needs. The issue isn't working or providing—it's the heart posture behind it. Are we trusting God as our provider, or are we operating from fear and self-reliance? The Proverbs 31 woman was productive and provided for her household, but she did so from a foundation of fearing the Lord, not from anxiety or trying to prove her worth.

## **Topic 4: People-Pleasing and Finding Identity in Christ**

The discussion addressed the common struggle of seeking validation from others and being hurt when people don't like or appreciate us. Multiple participants shared their journeys from being people-pleasers who needed everyone's approval to finding freedom in caring primarily about God's opinion. This transformation was described as a process that comes with spiritual maturity and deeper understanding of one's identity in Christ.

LaTonya shared her struggle with being "excessively nice" and not understanding why people wouldn't like her, but how understanding her identity as a kingdom woman freed her from that concern. Jackie affirmed this, noting that when you don't realize you're God's child, you worry about whether people like you, but once you understand who you are in Christ, you can love people without needing their approval.

The group discussed how trying to please everyone or shrinking oneself for others' comfort is actually a form of hiding one's light. Several participants shared experiences of overthinking, second-guessing themselves, or not fully showing up because they were worried about others' reactions. This was identified as a form of bondage that prevents women from walking in their full purpose and calling.

The conversation also addressed the reality that not everyone will like you—even Jesus was not liked by everyone. The Scripture reference that Jesus "did not entrust himself to anyone, for he knew what was in the heart of man" provided perspective on maintaining healthy boundaries while still loving people. The group emphasized that people often don't understand their own motivations and may be used by the enemy, so taking their opinions as truth about our identity is dangerous.

## **Relevant Q&A**

Question: How do we balance being kind and loving with not being a people-pleaser?

Response: The key is doing things as unto the Lord rather than for human approval. You can be kind and serve others while maintaining your identity in Christ. The difference is in the motivation—are you serving from a place of security in God's love, or are you trying to earn love and acceptance? Also, recognize that you can't control others' responses; you can only control your obedience to God.

Question: What about when family members or close friends hurt us or don't value us?

Response: This is particularly painful because we internalize messages more deeply from people close to us. The group emphasized the importance of taking these hurts to God, asking Him to help you see the person as He sees them, and doing the hard work of truly forgiving rather than just saying you forgive. It's also important to recognize that sometimes people who hurt us don't understand their own value in God, which is why they're unable to properly value others.

## **Topic 5: Parenting and Stewardship**

Several participants who are mothers discussed the application of kingdom woman principles to parenting. The conversation emphasized that children belong to God, not to parents, and that mothers are called to be good stewards and managers of what God has entrusted to them. This perspective relieves the pressure of feeling solely responsible for outcomes while maintaining the importance of faithful parenting.

Brittany shared her conviction about protecting her son from overstimulating media content, recognizing how fast-paced, colorful programming can contribute to attention problems and make it difficult for children to focus in normal classroom settings. This led to broader discussion about being intentional and wise in parenting choices, even when those choices go against cultural norms.

Lakenya gave an emotional testimony about her journey from being an overwhelmed, work-focused parent who showed love through buying things and taking kids out, to learning to be present and give quality time. She described being in a season of isolation where God is teaching her to sit still, surrender control, and prioritize relationship over productivity—both with God and with her children.

The group discussed how the same principles that apply to women's value apply to parenting: it's not about doing everything perfectly or being constantly busy with activities. It's about operating from wisdom, being present, and modeling a life centered on Christ. Several participants shared how their children are now thriving academically and relationally as they've slowed down and become more intentional.

## **Relevant Q&A**

Tracey: How do we handle the rapid progress children make when we're more present with them?

Response: This is evidence of God's faithfulness when we align with His priorities. Children thrive when they have present, engaged parents who aren't constantly rushed and stressed. The progress in reading and other areas is a blessing that comes from obedience to God's leading about how to spend time.

Question: How do we balance providing for children financially with being present for them?

Response: This goes back to trusting God as provider and recognizing that children need presence more than presents. The Proverbs 31 woman provided for her household, but she did so wisely and

joyfully, not frantically. God will provide what's needed when we prioritize relationship with Him and our families over chasing money or status.

## **Topic 6: Spiritual Growth and Transformation Testimonies**

The latter portion of the meeting included powerful testimonies of spiritual transformation, particularly from newer believers Lakenya and Tyasia. Lakenya shared her journey of reading Proverbs 31 as part of a 31-day challenge, which coincided with receiving the Kingdom Woman book. She described how the material grabbed hold of her and helped her realize she didn't know her value or understand how much she mattered to God.

Her testimony included acknowledging past patterns of people-pleasing, chasing wrong relationships, looking for love in wrong places, and being lukewarm in her faith. She described a recent season of sitting still and surrendering everything to God, which has brought peace she's never experienced before. Her decision to rededicate her life to Christ was directly connected to understanding her identity as a kingdom woman.

The group celebrated these testimonies and affirmed the importance of community in spiritual growth. Brittany emphasized how being surrounded by other believers prevents straying and provides accountability, encouragement, and proper perspective. The discussion highlighted how God orchestrates circumstances—like work schedules, book recommendations, and conversation topics—to align perfectly with what individuals need in their current season.

Multiple participants shared how the Kingdom Woman study has been "right on time" for where they are in their spiritual journeys. The material has provided language and framework for understanding concepts they were experiencing but couldn't articulate. The group expressed gratitude for how God uses corporate study and discussion to bring revelation and transformation that goes beyond individual reading.

### **Relevant Q&A**

Question: What if I wish I had learned these truths earlier in life?

Response: God's timing is perfect. You're learning what you need when you need it. You can't change the past, but you can embrace what God is teaching you now and trust that He will redeem the time. Every season has its purpose, and God wastes nothing.

Question: How do we maintain spiritual growth when we're away from church community?

Response: The group prayed specifically for Sister Mickey who is away from her church family, asking God to strengthen her, remind her of His love, and help her use her gifts for His glory wherever she is. The emphasis was on maintaining personal time with God and trusting that He provides what's needed in every season and location.

## Topic 7: Dealing with Offense and Maintaining Heart Posture

A significant thread throughout the discussion addressed how to handle offenses, disappointments, and difficult relationships while maintaining a Christ-like heart posture. Brittany emphasized the importance of not just saying you forgive someone or doing the "right thing" outwardly, but doing the hard work of truly examining your heart and seeing people as God sees them.

She used the analogy of mold on a wall—what you see on the surface is much smaller than what's actually there. Similarly, when we say we're not bothered by something or we've forgiven someone, there may be much more "gunk" in our hearts than we realize. The real spiritual work is forcing yourself to see the person who offended you the way Jesus sees them—as someone He died for, someone He loves.

The group discussed how unforgiveness and unresolved hurt can accumulate over years, creating layers of bitterness and hardness that we may not even recognize. The solution is consistently "wringing out" your heart to God, being honest about how you really feel, and asking Him to help you love people the way He does—not just because it's the right thing to do, but genuinely.

Mother Irene provided wisdom about leaving things with God once you've given them to Him, rather than picking them back up and continuing to worry or try to fix them. She noted that God will keep taking you through the same situations until you learn to truly release them to Him. The group also acknowledged that sometimes God's people need to be left with God—there are relationships that need distance and boundaries while you trust God to work.

### Relevant Q&A

Question: How do we truly forgive when the hurt is deep or ongoing?

Response: True forgiveness is a process that requires consistently bringing the situation to God, asking Him to help you see the person as He sees them, and doing the heart work of releasing bitterness. It's not just saying the words or acting kind outwardly—it's allowing God to remove the "gunk" from your heart. This often requires time, prayer, and sometimes distance from the person while God does the healing work.

Question: What about when believers hurt us or don't act Christ-like?

Response: Even believers can be used by the enemy when they're not fully submitted to the Holy Spirit. Being filled with the Spirit versus just having the Spirit in you makes a difference in how we respond to situations. We're all in process, so we need to extend grace while also maintaining boundaries. Sometimes God's people need to be left with God while you focus on your own relationship with Him.

### Actionable Next Steps / Assignments

- Continue reading and studying the Kingdom Woman book by Tony Evans and Chrystal Evans Hurst
- Practice "wringing out" your heart to God daily—being honest about feelings, hurts, and struggles rather than just saying you're fine
- Identify areas where you may be trying to earn value through productivity and bring those to God in prayer
- Examine your heart for unforgiveness or bitterness toward people who have hurt you, asking God to help you see them as He sees them
- Practice rest and Sabbath, trusting God as provider rather than operating from fear or self-reliance
- Be intentional about time with children and family, prioritizing presence over productivity
- Memorize and meditate on Scripture passages about your identity and value in Christ
- Attend the next women's ministry meeting to continue the Kingdom Woman study

## **Supplemental Resources**

- Kingdom Woman book by Tony Evans and Chrystal Evans Hurst (available on Amazon)
- Video teaching by Tony Evans on Kingdom Woman (referenced throughout the session)
- Scripture passages for meditation: Psalm 139:13-16, Isaiah 1:18, Jeremiah 31:3, Zephaniah 3:17, Luke 7:47, Luke 12:6-7, Romans 8:37-39, 1 John 3:16, Proverbs 31:1-31
- Women's ministry group chat for ongoing encouragement and resources