BIBLE TALK

This week the topic is this: ***No excuses: The wife is the "homemaker."***

Listen carefully to the following passage of scripture:

Titus 2:1

1 But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine:

Titus was a young preacher who was being trained by the apostle Paul. He is given a charge here – an apostolic order. Titus has to do what Paul is telling him. This is not just a simple matter of Titus doing something only if he wants to do it. He must "speak sound doctrine."

Listen carefully to some of the "sound doctrine" which he must teach:

Titus 2:2-5

2 that the older men be sober, reverent, temperate, sound in faith, in love, in patience;

3 **the older women** likewise, that they be reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things —

4 **that they admonish the young women** to love their husbands, to love their children,

5 to be discreet, chaste, **homemakers**, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.

Titus is commanded to teach the older women to behave themselves with "reverent behavior." The older women are to "admonish the young women" to be "homemakers." This is our topic this week. Young women are to be admonished to be homemakers.

A "homemaker" is someone who "manages a home." A manager does not necessarily perform every single job herself, but she makes sure every single job is taken care of.

**To illustrate**: Suppose a woman is the manager of a Wal-Mart store. What sort of things is a manager responsible for? The manager would have to make sure all the shelves are stocked, that the floors are clean, that enough cash registers are open and running. These are just a few of the jobs a manager has to attend to. We would not expect to see the manager of Wal-Mart personally cleaning the floors of Wal-Mart. If an emergency situation arose, the manager might grab a mop and mop up a dangerous spill, but ordinarily, the manager simply oversees the store to make sure the work that needs to get done does get done by someone. If necessary, the manager herself will pitch in and make sure a job gets done.

Likewise, the wife in a marriage is to be a homemaker – someone who "manages a home." She may not personally wash the dishes or cook the food, but she makes sure the food does get cooked and the dishes do get washed. If necessary, the manager (the wife) will pitch in and personally clean and wash and cook.

Perhaps a Christian woman doesn't want to be the homemaker. In that case, the woman should not marry. However, if she wishes to marry, she must assume the role of homemaker. That's the job assigned to her by God. (By the way, I'm not the one making the rules – I'm just reporting what the Bible says.)

If a Christian woman is married, then she is responsible with managing the home and making sure the work around the house is done. If she does not keep the home in order, it is possible that she is idle. The NT speaks about women being idle:

1 Timothy 5:11-14

11 But refuse [financial support to] **the younger widows**; for when they have begun to grow wanton against Christ, they desire to marry,

12 having condemnation because they have cast off their first faith.

13 And besides they learn to be idle, wandering about from house to house, and not only idle but also gossips and busybodies, saying things which they ought not.

14 Therefore I desire that the younger widows marry, bear children, manage the house, give no opportunity to the adversary to speak reproachfully.

Young widows are not to be enrolled on the payroll of the church. They are not to be given financial support on a regular basis because it will lead to idleness. Rather than managing their homes, they become idle and busybodies.

A woman does not necessarily have to stay at home to be a manager of the home. There may be situations where a wife must seek employment outside the home to bring in money. However, she is still responsible for managing the home and may not neglect this responsibility. In such cases, her workload has merely increased.

On the other hand, there are women who stay home, but the house is unkempt and neglected. It is wrong for a wife to neglect her duties – especially if she is staying at home.

If at all possible, when children are in the home, a mother needs to be at home overseeing the children and training them in their conduct. Our homes are suffering in America because children are left in day-care centers which merely feed and care for the physical safety of children – but which offer no moral guidance.

The bible teaches the ideal home is this:

* A man an woman marry one another and stay faithful to one another for their entire lives.
* They have children.
* The father is responsible to see that the children are reared in the ways of the Lord (Eph 6:4).
* The mother is responsible to see that the home is managed well (Tit 2:5).

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Well … thanks for listening to our message this week. We invite you to visit our website [**www.WillOfTheLord.com**](http://www.WillOfTheLord.com). There you may download the notes and the audio file of the message you just listened to.

Call again next week when we consider a new subject on ***Bible Talk***.