

To Be Chaste ~ A Good Thing For Women To Learn

Here we are in our seventh week of studying the lessons that God would have us learn from Titus 2:3-5. We have learned much about how God wants us to build the “foundation” and “structure” of our homes, and today we will begin to learn how the *understanding* of learning how **to be chaste** will help us in the establishing of a good testimony in our homes. Keep in mind that the overall goal is that we become wise women that build our homes, and not foolish ones that tear them down.

Proverbs 24:1 says that “*Through wisdom is an house builded; and by **understanding it is established:** And by knowledge shall the chambers be filled with all precious and pleasant riches.*”

Let’s look at how learning “to be chaste” will help us to establish a good testimony in our homes.

What do you think it means “to be chaste”?

Chaste is not a word that is commonly used in our vocabulary these days. We talk a lot about the importance of young women keeping themselves pure, but we don’t often consider the concept of what it means for them to learn how to be chaste.

As I spent time studying and researching for this Bible lesson, I discovered that this word chaste is used only three times in the Bible, and each time it is used, it has the exact same Greek meaning ~ “clean, innocent, modest, perfect”.

Let’s take a moment and look at these three verses and see the situations in which God desires for Christian people to be “chaste.”

1. *II Corinthians 11:2 ~ in their relationship to Christ*
2. *Titus 2:5 ~ in their relationship to their homes*
3. *I Peter 3:2 ~ in their relationship to their husbands*

I find it interesting, that two out of the three verses speak directly about women, and the third is speaking about a bride which is a picture of a womanly role in life. It seems that God is very concerned about women behaving in a manner that is chaste.

Why do you think that God directs His concern about being chaste towards women? Why don’t you think he used men as His target?

What do you think happens to a home when a woman behaves in a manner that is not chaste?

When a woman behaves in a manner that is not chaste, she brings shame and dishonor to her family and her home.

Now, I don’t believe that there is a woman reading this Bible study that would WANT to bring on this kind of testimony, but if we aren’t careful to learn how “to be chaste” in our personal lives, this is exactly what we might end up doing.

What does it mean “to be chaste” in our personal lives? It means to be physically pure, and morally blameless.

1. How can we learn to be physically pure?

a. By living a clean life.

- i. John 15:1-3 (through the reading of God’s Word)
- ii. Matthew 23:25-26 (by being clean on the inside)
- iii. I John 1:9 (by confessing sin)

b. By living an innocent life.

- i. Proverbs 28:20 (be careful of your desire for money)
- ii. Romans 16:19 (be careful about knowing about evil things)
- iii. I Corinthians 15:33 (be careful about friendships)

2. How can we learn to be morally blameless?

a. By living a modest life.

- i. I Timothy 2:9 (dress modestly)
- ii. I Timothy 2:11-12 (learn silently)

b. By living a perfect life.

- i. Matthew 19:21 (be benevolent)
- ii. Matthew 5:43-48 (love your enemies)
- iii. James 3:2 (be careful in speech)
- iv. James 1:4 (be patient)
- v. I Peter 5:10 (suffer with dignity)
- vi. I John 2:5 (obey God’s Word)

Although this is certainly not an all inclusive list on how to be chaste, I think it gives us a clear picture of some of the areas that we must be careful in if we are going to learn how to live this way.

As we close this study, I want to speak to those of us that may have behaved in a rather *unchaste* manner before we understood that this was something that God wanted us to learn how to do. What are we supposed to do about all the damage that we have caused to our home and our family name, and how can we effectively begin to rebuild in these areas?

God’s Word teaches us, through Psalm 51 that we are to cry out to God for His mercy, plead with Him to give us a clean heart, and pray for that He will renew a right spirit within us. This is God’s “cleansing shower” of restoration for those that have lived foolishly and allowed wickedness to permeate their everyday lives.

Isn’t it wonderful to know that God is ready and willing to **forgive and restore** ANYONE that desires His mercy and will acknowledge their sin? The Bible says in verse 17 of this Psalm that **“The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O God, thou wilt not despise.”** Please always remember that God is merciful and His mercy is everlasting, and that He is willing and able to give each one of us an opportunity to learn how to be chaste and bring honor and glory to Him, our homes, and the people that live in our homes.

Next week we will learn the importance of being **“keepers at home”** as we continue to study how a wise woman establishes the testimony in her home.

Hope to see you next week!

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