

A scenic autumn landscape featuring a pond with lily pads, surrounded by trees with vibrant orange, red, and yellow foliage. The scene is captured from a low angle, with some reeds in the foreground.

*Welcome To  
Sunday Night Bible Fellowship*

***“We proclaim Him, warning every man and teaching every man with all wisdom, so that we may present every man mature in Christ.” Col 1:28***

# ***“The Old and the Young”***

Titus 2:1-5

November 15, 2015

## **Titus 2:1-5**

- 1 But as for you, speak the things which are fitting for sound doctrine.
- 2 Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in perseverance.
- 3 Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips nor enslaved to much wine, teaching what is good,
- 4 so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children,
- 5 to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, so that the word of God will not be dishonored.
- 6 Likewise urge the young men to be sensible;
- 7 in all things show yourself to be an example of good deeds, with purity in doctrine, dignified,
- 8 sound in speech which is beyond reproach, so that the opponent will be put to shame, having nothing bad to say about us.

## **Titus 1:12**

12 One of themselves, a prophet of their own, said,  
"Cretans are always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons."



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## **Lev 19:32**

32 'You shall rise up before the grayheaded and honor the aged, and you shall revere your God; I am the Lord.

## **Prov 16:31**

31 A gray head is a crown of glory;  
It is found in the way of righteousness.

## **Job 12:12**

12 "Wisdom is with aged men,  
With long life is understanding.

## **Job 32:6-7**

6 "I am young in years and you are old;  
Therefore I was shy and afraid to tell you what I think.

7 "I thought age should speak,  
And increased years should teach wisdom.

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# “Older Men”

“**sober**” – serious, thoughtful, moderate, discerning, has set his priorities, according to scripture.

“**dignified**” – honorable, reserved, composed, worthy of respect, not superficial.

“**sensible**” - sound in judgment, “one who is in control of his mind and his thoughts”, “not caught up in the trivial”, “not easily distracted”, “not swept away by his emotions”.



## **Titus 1**

8 but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled,

## **Titus 2**

2 Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in perseverance.

6 Likewise urge the young men to be sensible;

## **“Older Men”**

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**“sensible”** - sound in judgment, “one who is in control of his mind and his thoughts”, “not caught up in the trivial”, “not easily distracted”, “not swept away by his emotions”.

**“sound in faith”** – he believes the truth and he walks by faith in the truth.

**“sound in love”** – he loves others, not because others are loveable, but because God’s love resides in him.

**“sound in perseverance”** – he is able to be steadfast through all kinds of obstacles, trials, and problems.

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# “Older Women”

“**reverent in behavior**” – godly examples of holiness, purity. She reflects a walk devoted to God.

“**not malicious gossips**” – not slanderous. Slander is uttering false charges or misrepresentations which defame or damage another’s reputation.

“**not enslaved to much wine**” – not a slave to wine. δουλος. Wine is not her master. She should not be an alcoholic or substance abuser of any sort.

- 4.6 million women are alcoholics in the U.S.
- 43 percent of drug abuse patients admitted to emergency rooms were female and 57 percent were male.

“**teaching what is good**” – teaching what is noble, what is excellent. Teaching what is godly, holy, righteous.

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# **“Young Women”**

**“love their husbands”** – this is love that is not based on a husband's worthiness but on God's command. There are tough times and trials that a marriage goes through but through those times she is to continue to love her husband.

**“love their children”** – this is love that cares for and nurtures her children. Outside of her husband, this is the highest priority in her life.

**“to be sensible”** – common sense, avoids extremes, is moderate in lifestyle. A “balanced demeanor characterized by self-control, prudence and good judgment.”



**“pure”** – morally pure, holy.

**“workers at home”** – this is her domain – this is her focus the home. This is what she manages. This is what she guards.

# **1 Tim 2:11-15**

11 A woman must quietly receive instruction with entire submissiveness.

12 But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet.

13 For it was Adam who was first created, and then Eve.

14 And it was not Adam who was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.

15 But women will be preserved through the bearing of children if they continue in faith and love and sanctity with self-restraint.

**“pure”** – morally pure, holy.

**“workers at home”** – this is her domain – the home.

This is what she manages. This is what she guards.

What does that look like? Prov. 31:10-31

## **Prov 31:10-31**

- 10 An excellent wife, who can find? For her worth is far above jewels.
- 11 The heart of her husband trusts in her, And he will have no lack of gain.
- 12 She does him good and not evil All the days of her life.
- 13 She looks for wool and flax And works with her hands in delight.
- 14 She is like merchant ships; She brings her food from afar.
- 15 She rises also while it is still night And gives food to her household And portions to her maidens.
- 16 She considers a field and buys it; From her earnings she plants a vineyard.
- 17 She girds herself with strength And makes her arms strong.
- 18 She senses that her gain is good; Her lamp does not go out at night.
- 19 She stretches out her hands to the distaff, And her hands grasp the spindle.
- 20 She extends her hand to the poor, And she stretches out her hands to the needy.

- 21 She is not afraid of the snow for her household, For all her household are clothed with scarlet.
- 22 She makes coverings for herself; Her clothing is fine linen and purple.
- 23 Her husband is known in the gates, When he sits among the elders of the land.
- 24 She makes linen garments and sells them, And supplies belts to the tradesmen.
- 25 Strength and dignity are her clothing, And she smiles at the future.
- 26 She opens her mouth in wisdom, And the teaching of kindness is on her tongue.
- 27 She looks well to the ways of her household, And does not eat the bread of idleness.
- 28 Her children rise up and bless her; Her husband also, and he praises her, saying:
- 29 "Many daughters have done nobly, But you excel them all."
- 30 Charm is deceitful and beauty is vain, But a woman who fears the Lord, she shall be praised.
- 31 Give her the product of her hands, And let her works praise her in the gates.

## ***The Proverbs 31 woman was a –***

- manufacturer
- merchant
- landowner
- agriculturalist
- business partner with her husband
- manager
- forecaster
- entrepreneur
- investor
- accountant



# WOMEN IN SCRIPTURE

Women were -

- in agriculture (Josh 15:17-19; Ruth 2:8; Prov 31:16b)
- millers (Exod 11:5; Matt 24:41)
- shepherds (Gen 29:9; Exod 2:16)
- perfumers, cooks, and bakers (1 Sam 8:13)
- midwives (Exod 1:15ff)
- nurses (Gen 35:8; Exod 2:7; 2 Sam 4:4; 1 Kings 1:4)
- domestic servants (Acts 12:13)
- professional mourners (Jer 9:17)
- Deborah was a Judge (Judges 4:4,5)
- Sheerah built 3 towns (1 Chron 7:24)
- Aquila's wife, Priscilla, was a tentmaker along with her husband. (Acts 18:2,3)
- Lydia was a Trader. (Acts 16:14)

# **Why should a wife/mother work outside the home?**

***Right Reason:*** To help her manage her top priority and that is to care for and provide for her family. If it helps her do that, then it is legitimate.

***Wrong Reason:*** To give her freedom, liberty, and independence from the home. To prove she is no more tied to the detailed responsibilities of the home than the husband is.

So why does Paul address it here in this culture?

“Between about 3000 and 1400 BC one of the world’s great civilizations flourished on the island of Crete. The distinctive characteristic of this civilization was that it was dominated by an elite of women.”

**- Crete Reclaimed: A Feminist Exploration of  
Bronze Age Crete Paperback – 20 Sep 1996**

Susan Evasdaughter (Author),

# **“Goddess Pilgrimage: A Way to Keep Feminist Sparks Flying without Burning Out”**

*- Elizabeth Chloe Erdmann*

*Published on: 9th June 2015*

“Feminist theologian Carol P. Christ leads a bi-annual tour focusing on the ancient Cretan civilization where women today can experience a pilgrimage ranging across many boundaries—part consciousness raising, part academic exploration, part spiritual quest—in search of Goddess embodied in ancient stones and artifacts and in the local nature and culture.”



Several double axes were found in a cave in Crete.  
The labrys has been used since the 1970s as a lesbian,  
feminist, and goddess movement symbol to  
represent women's strength and self-sufficiency.[\[](#)





## ***Today's liberated woman –***

“She works, builds her career, demands equal pay, refuses to submit to her husband, demanding equality with him in everything. Has an affair or two and a divorce or two. Exercises her independence. Relies on her own resources. Doesn't want her husband or her children to threaten her personal goals. Very often has her own bank account. She hires a maid or a cleaning service, eats out at least 50 percent of the time with her family or without. Makes cold cereal and coffee the standard breakfast for everybody. Quick frozen meals, the usual dinner fare if there is a dinner fare at home. Expects her husband to do at least an equal share of housework. She is tanned, coiffured, aerobicized, shopping to keep up the fashion trends, make sure she can compete in the attention-getting contest. She puts the kids in a day-care center. Makes sure each one has a TV in his room or a radio and a CD player so they are entertained all the time and don't bother her...leaving them to the brainwashing of the immoral materialistic society that pumps whatever it pumps through those media. She is opinionated, usually, likes to be heard from and is eager to fulfill her personal goals.”

**“pure”** – morally pure, holy.

**“workers at home”** – this is her domain – the home. This is what she manages. This is what she guards. What does that look like? Prov. 31:10-31

**“kind”** – having a benevolent, loving, gracious nature.

**“being subject to their own husbands”** – to be submissive, as man is to be to Christ, as the church is to be to Christ, and as Christ is to the Father.

### **1 Cor 11:3**

3 But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ.

### **Eph 5:22-24**

22 Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord.

23 For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body.

24 But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything.

# Apples OF Gold

Listening, Loving, Learning, Living

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## About Apples of Gold

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- [Why Apples of Gold?](#)
- [Read Testimonies from AOG](#)
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### A nurturing program for women

Women are searching for community, camaraderie and companionship. They also want to grow and mature in their mothering skills as well as in their spiritual lives. Apples of Gold fills all of these needs. It's not just a mentoring program; it's not just a cooking class. It's a nurturing, intergenerational connection that teaches women how to love their husbands; love their children; and practice submission, hospitality, kindness and purity. As Scripture says:

"A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in a setting of silver." - Proverbs 25:11

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*Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. Then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children, to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home; to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.—Titus 2:3-5, NIV*

By equipping older women to lovingly and supportively train younger women through biblical lessons and a weekly sharing time together, Apples of Gold preserves traditional values. It rebuilds marriage relationships, offers insight on overwhelming parent-child relationships and emphasizes the importance of spiritual development. Apples of Gold is building up mothers, marriages and lives worldwide.





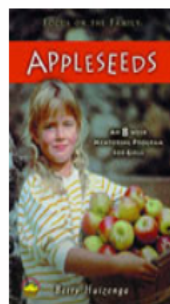
From Apple seeds into lovely blossoms,  
 Purest white with fragrance so sweet;  
 Filling the earth with grace and beauty,  
 God's perfect plan revealed in me.

From apples blossoms pure and fragrant  
 Into choice fruit so pleasant and sweet;  
 Clinging so closely to the branches,  
 God's perfect plan revealed in me.

I want to bear the fruit of the Spirit;  
 Fragrance of Jesus so precious and sweet;  
 Sharing His love to those all around me,  
 God's perfect plan revealed in me.

- Betty Huizenga

## Appleseeds



Appleseeds is a mentoring ministry for pre-teen girls. It is a ten-week program that can be used as Sunday School curriculum, in a neighborhood with moms and daughters, in homes with older mentors or one on one. Each of the ten lessons includes: a Bible lesson, Manners Matter, and a craft which is a reminder of the lesson for the week.

### Lessons include:

- What is God Like?
- How Can I Know God?
- Who Am I?
- What Am I Thinking?
- What Am I Looking At?
- What Am I Listening To?
- What Am I Saying?
- How Is My Heart?
- What Am I Holding?
- Where Am I Going?

This top-to-toe approach teaches the girls how to be young women of God, to live pure lives, how to get along with friends, and the importance of good manners, including modesty and how to dress, how to make introductions, writing thank you notes, setting a proper table, and so much more.

The young girls share openly with their mentors and one another.

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# **Application**

1. We need to promote and honor our seniors, both men and women – they have a lot to contribute!
2. We need to encourage young mothers, who have a huge responsibility in the management of their homes.
3. We need to pray for everyone, both older and younger, that their godly character and their obedient actions, would honor God's Word and bring glory to His name.