**“God’s Priorities For Today’s Woman *-Discovering His Plan for You”***

**By Lisa Hughes -Winter/Spring 2021**

***PART 2 -- THE ART OF FOLLOWING GOD’S PRIORITIES***

Tuesday, February 9th -Chapter 9– *“The Art of Loving Your Children”*

*“…the Bible provides the framework every parent, potential parent, and innocent bystander needs to know for raising children who love the Lord and desire to honor Him with their lives. From Titus 2:3-5 we can begin to build the foundation for the most biblical and God-pleasing way of loving our children even on meltdown days!” (pg.132)*

**T** rain? Why does God command the older women *to train* the younger women to love their children?

**H** ere’s why. Young women are taught by the world that mothering is doing what *“feels right*” to them.

**E** radicating this mindset, young women are to be taught by the older women that it’s not what “*they think”* is right but what God says is right for how they are to love their children. p.132

**A** s we turn from worldly thinking, God can teach us *how* to love them in ways that brings Him glory!

**R** egardless what others say, God desires and intends for mothers to delight in and enjoy their children.

**T** eaching and training your children in God’s ways is the same as loving them. Devote yourself to them!

**O** ur God commands us to raise children to love Him and to respect, honour and obey their parents.

**F** aithful and loving parents desire their children to know Christ as Lord and to be a blessing to others.

**L** et’s not forget, the key to raise likeable, wise children ***begins*** by clinging to God and His Word. p.134

**O** nly by obeying God’s Word will we do what is best for our children. We must parent them biblically!

**V** ersed in God’s Word, we learn how to confront and correct our children’s sinful actions and attitudes.

**I** t’s also our responsibility to search God’s Word to see *how* we are to instruct and encourage them.

**N** ow we must stop here and ask ourselves this question, “Do ***I*** love God and do ***I*** know Him intimately?”

**G** enuinely instructing our children in the ways of the Lord must come from hearts that truly *know* Him. p.136

**Y** our faith in Jesus Christ, your fervent love for Him and a fierce appetite for His Word is *essential*.

**O** ur children are very observant. These *essentials* will authenticate what we say and teach about Him.

**U** ltimately, God wants parents to use every opportunity they can to talk with their children about Him.

**R** emember, Deuteronomy 6:4-7 is one of the great parenting passages in the Bible that contains the focus and scope of *what* you are to train your children. p.135

**C** onsidering that we are to teach our children, let’s not forget that *God also uses them to teach us*!

**H** e teaches us to rely on Him, trust Him and to seek Him in prayer in every season of our parenting.

**I** t takes diligence, prayer and the application of God’s Word to turn little sinners into little blessings.

**L** ook for time to read the Proverbs and learn *how* to shape your children’s hearts with biblical wisdom.

**D**  eveloping godly character in the hearts of your children will by God’s grace turn into godly conduct.

**R** edemptive instructions, loving correction and Spirit-controlled discipline paves the way to the Lord.

**E** very situation that involves training and discipline prepares your children’s hearts for the Gospel!

**N** ow is the time! The time we willingly invest in the raising up of our children will eventually bear fruit that not only brings joy to our hearts but will bring glory to God! p.144

Ladies I concur with Lisa, *“We are to work on the roles and responsibilities of Titus 2:3-5 faithfully, persistently, and with zeal. We can’t love our children without diligently training them in the Word of God. Are you faithfully teaching your children about the Lord?”* p.137

***“Your children need training—which is why they need you. When you train your children, you are loving them in true Titus 2:4 fashion!”*** ***p.143***

Looking forward to our time together tomorrow morning studying Chapter 9 –“The Art of Loving Your Children” at 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, February 9th via “Zoom”