

WOMEN OF THE OLD TESTAMENT **PROVERBS 31 WOMAN**

Pray and ask God to help you to know Him better as you study His Word.

Read the Bible passage (preferably without using commentaries).

Begin to answer the questions using your own words.

Questions are based on the New International Version (NIV) 2011 edition.

Lesson 26 • May 8, 2013

1. What truth, verse or insight from last week's study of **Gomer** has been helpful to you?

SECTION I: Read Proverbs 31:10-24

2. What are your initial impressions of the Proverbs 31 woman?
3. a) Read **V10** and look up the word "noble." How is it defined, and what are some synonyms?

b) Why do you think a woman of "noble character" is so rare and has such great value?
4. a) According to **V11-12**, how is her husband affected by having such a wife?

b) This woman cannot be perfect; no one is. So how do you explain **V12**? (See **Proverbs 19:14b** for one possible explanation.)
5. Which character trait do you see in her in **V13-15** that you would like to see in your own life?
6. a) What words would you use to describe her in **V16-19**?

b) How does her entrepreneurial spirit challenge any traditional views on the role of a woman? (For one example, see **Titus 2:3-5**.)

7. a) From **V20-24**, look at the different spheres of her influence. How do those around her benefit?
- b) Read **Deuteronomy 15:11**. How does her life reflect obedience to God's commands?

SECTION II: Read Proverbs 31:25-31

8. a) In your own words, what do others see when they look at the Proverbs 31 woman, according to **V25**?
- b) Why do you think she can laugh at the days to come?
9. a) What do others hear when the Proverbs 31 woman speaks, according to **V26**?
- b) What would others say they hear when you speak?
10. How do **V27-28** add to the portrait of the Proverbs 31 woman?
11. a) Based on **V29-30**, what is the underlying key to her priorities?
- b) What is the underlying key to your priorities?
- c) When you stand before the LORD, how do you think He'll view them?
12. How does **1 Peter 3:3-4** reinforce the truths of **V30**?
13. What do you think the "fear of the LORD" means and doesn't mean?

14. Do you see a conflict between Paul's instructions to wives in **Ephesians 5:22-24, 33**, and **Titus 2:3-5**, and the Proverbs 31 woman? Why or why not?
15. We are closing our study with the Proverbs 31 woman who is a role model of "the good," versus "the bad and the ugly."
- a) What character trait of hers speaks to you the most, and why?
- b) How does her life inspire you to use or explore an untapped gift?
16. Form a prayer based on one of the many facets of the Proverbs 31 woman.

DIGGING DEEPER

Despite all of her accomplishments, the Proverbs 31 woman was praised because she feared the LORD.

1. Who or what do you fear? How has that fear affected the course of your life?
2. According to **Proverbs 2:1-6**, how do you understand the fear of the LORD?
3. Read **Isaiah 33:6**. The fear of the LORD is the key to what treasure?
4. In your own words, what more do you learn about the fear of the LORD from:
Psalm 25:12, 14 _____
Proverbs 14:26-27 _____
Jeremiah 32:39 _____
5. From **Psalm 103:11-17**, how does the LORD treat those who fear Him?

6. Suggested Memory Verse: **Proverbs 31:30**

