



WEEKLY  
*Summary*

Welcome to Biblical Womanhood! We are excited you have joined us for what we hope will be a life-changing study. For the next several months, we will be taking a hard look at a crucial issue in our world, our society, and for many of us personally: “What does it mean to be a Woman?” So much confusion, controversy, and even conflict surround this issue. As women, we have the sense that being a woman is crucially important. If we don’t do a good job of “being a woman,” we may have missed out on something vitally important when all is said and done. However, we seem to be stumbling blindly through a maze with many voices shouting contradictory advice at us. Most of us have a vague mental image of “traditional” gender roles (resembling what we read in the “Little House” books or saw on old TV shows) which is tied to “traditional” religious views and conservative politics. But Science and Philosophy tell us that traditional thinking is for mental lightweights, and God is either irrelevant or non-existent. Feminist teaching and post-modern thinking tell us that “gender roles” are an archaic idea: there are no differences between men and women except the ones we create in our own minds, and actually, men are either irrelevant or The Problem. But for the most part, we are so busy—our lives and families so scattered by the pace of things and all the responsibilities we juggle—that we don’t have time to sort it all out.

Our goal in Biblical Womanhood is to take the time to untangle some of the confusion. This study will challenge beliefs and opinions many of us embrace without really thinking about it, from traditional views to progressive perspectives. In the next few months, you may find yourself questioning or defending convictions you’ve had for years with regard to women and men. For example, most of us are in the habit of thinking that the issue between women and men is Equality. However, the Bible is clear on that issue. Men and women are absolutely equal in the sight of God. We have equal value to Him, and as Christians, we are equal heirs to His grace. However, we are also **different by design**, according to the Bible, and we bring different strengths as we partner together to create and develop a flourishing world. So, the issue is not Equality, but Identity.

This rearranging of our mental categories can be a challenging experience, so we want you to be prepared. Before we go any further, please understand that the principles set forth in this study are founded on Biblical Teaching, not on one individual’s opinion or society’s conventional wisdom. That’s where we’re coming from. We think it will also be helpful to you to spend some time examining where **you’re** coming from and hope that you will feel free to share where you are in your journey openly and honestly. Our hope is, as we share our unique perspectives with one another and wrestle with God’s perspective, that we will grow in becoming individually and together all that God designed us to be – that we will flourish.

