



WEEKLY
Summary

Week Nine Summary:

Most of us know people with strong personalities. These folks have great strengths of character which can be powerfully positive traits but, when misapplied, can become their greatest weaknesses. For example, a visionary, dynamic leader can damage relationships when *people* get in the way of her direction. Depravity works that way. It takes our most positive potentials and bends and twists them until they do damage rather than good.

One of the greatest strengths of women, in general, is our capacity to nurture. Not only are we biologically equipped to bear and sustain life, we are emotionally and psychologically wired to care for the people around us—whether we are mothers or not. We are the givers of life, the cultivators of family, and the preservers of relational ties. What a hugely valuable contribution!

Unfortunately, depravity has introduced a dark side to our nurturing nature. We look at those we love, and we KNOW what would be **good** for them. So, we launch campaigns to make that **good** happen. An almost irresistible urge drives us to use our nurturing skills to manipulate the people and circumstances around us. It's as if we are making a deal with the world, "I will take care of everything, and in exchange, I expect to be in charge." Others may respond in one of two ways: They may let us make all the decisions and "take care of everything," in which case they lose our respect. Or, they may resist us, either actively or passively, in which case they frustrate or anger us. It's a "no-win" situation for them *and* us. How does that work in your life?

