



WEEKLY
Summary

Week Fifteen Summary:

As we move from the Genesis narrative that we have been looking at the last two weeks, we can come to a conclusion on what the core, or primary, contributions God designed men and women to make in society. Men are the bearers of destiny. God created men with a unique wiring for leadership and calls men to be the social and spiritual leaders in the family and in society. However, defection from this leadership spells trouble not just for men, but for everyone. Women are the nurturers of life. Women thrive in societies where this core contribution is honored. History as well as the physical and social sciences all agree that women have are wired to nurture life: biologically, emotionally and relationally. And it is our greatest joy as women. As we understand the core contribution that women are to make in society, we can then find a biblical **Definition of Womanhood**. That's what we started "unpacking" this week.

A Real Woman is One Who...

Rejects Worldly Temptations for Significance

- Women must be truth seekers. We must fight our desire to consider emotions as truth and take a critical look at the ideas that the world gives us by taking it to the standard of Truth found in God's Word. And then we must go with Truth.
- The world tells us that independence from men makes us significant. It implies that the only alternatives to independence are needy dependence on "a man to take care of me" or a worthless, ignorant doormat for "a man to take advantage of me." But the Bible paints a beautiful picture of relational *interdependence* for humanity. Men and women each have needs that can only be met by the other.
- Furthermore, the world tells us that women get their significance and their value from their outward appearance—outer beauty. But the Word tells us the value of a woman comes from the quality of her character—inner beauty.

Embraces God's Design for Relationships

God created orderly structure in the Marriage Relationship: Man as the Head and Woman as the Helper. When we choose to recognize, embrace, and work within this structure we are becoming the women God intends us to be.

Nurtures the Next Generation

Women are specially equipped to Nurture. This means so much more than giving birth and raising children. "REAL" women of God take seriously the honor and responsibility to raise up the next generation of God worshipers, pouring into the lives of others as mothers, grandmothers, aunts, mentors, and disciple-makers.

Looks for a Greater Reward, God's Reward

Following God's design and living within His plan works so much better than anything we could come up with on our own. It is not a guarantee of any particular outcome, however. Some women never marry or have children. Some have husbands who never step up to their roles as men. We can't follow God merely to get a good outcome, like a divine self-help program. We must follow God because He is God, and trust Him to reward us in His way at His time. For women this is enough.

