

# WOMAN - THE HOME MAKER

Sylvester Onyemalechi

In marriage, there are responsibilities for both couples outlined by God to make for the smooth running of the home. The man was given the leadership role, while the woman was given the role of a helper – home maker. Though the man is the leader of his house, the woman's role is very important and crucial to the survival and success of the marriage. It is so important that the home cannot survive if the woman does not play her role.

As the helper to the man, the woman's role is to manage the home and make sure all is well, the husband is cared for and always happy, motivated and productive and that the children are taken care of and developing properly to the glory of God. What will the world of a man look like without a woman in his life? God Himself said it is not good for the man to be alone in Genesis 2:18. So He made a helper suitable for man, and man called her woman because she is of the same kind with him.

*Prov 31:10-31*

*10 A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies. 11 Her husband has full confidence in her and lacks nothing of value. 12 She brings him good, not harm, all the days of her life. 13 She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands. 14 She is like the merchant ships, bringing her food from afar. 15 She gets up while it is still dark; she provides food for her family and portions for her servant girls. 16 She considers a field and buys it; out of her earnings she plants a vineyard. 17 She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks. 18 She sees that her trading is profitable, and her lamp does not go out at night. 19 In her hand she holds the distaff and grasps the spindle with her fingers. 20 She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy. 21 When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet. 22 She makes coverings for her bed; she is clothed in fine linen and purple. 23 Her husband is respected at the city gate, where he takes his seat among the elders of the land. 24 She makes linen garments and sells them, and supplies the merchants with sashes. 25 She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. 26 She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue. 27 She watches over the affairs of her household and does not eat the bread of idleness. 28 Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her: 29 "Many women do noble things, but you surpass them all." 30 Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised. 31 Give her the reward she has earned, and let her works bring her praise at the city gate.*

*NIV*

The above passage describes a perfect home maker in action. Every married woman should study and emulate the character of this role model described as a virtuous woman. She brings her husband honour because her exceptional character and hard work is known in the community. Moreover, they never hear her quarrelling with her husband and her home is peaceful. It was difficult to find such a noble woman in the days when the book of Proverbs was written; it is even more difficult now that many have become

lazy and the women liberation theology has eaten deep into many hearts. Nevertheless, the wife remains the home maker and her responsibility as a home maker is exemplified in the life and character of the noble and virtuous woman of Proverbs 31. It is imperative that every married woman should study the life of this noble character and emulate her for her home to be sweet, exciting and peaceful.

The responsibilities of the woman in the home include:

## **1. HOME MANAGEMENT**

*Titus 2:3-5*

*3 Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good. 4 Then they can train the younger women to love their husbands and children, 5 to be self-controlled and pure, to be busy at home, to be kind, and to be subject to their husbands, so that no one will malign the word of God.*

*NIV*

1. Management of family food money.
2. Keeping the home beautiful, attractive and conducive for peaceful and harmonious habitation.
3. Keeping the home clean and decent at all times.
4. Working hard to make sure that the family lacks no food, clothing and the basic necessities of life.
5. Serve all in the family and in-laws with joy and gladness.
6. Take special care of children and house helps.

## **2. SUBMISSION**

*Eph 5:21-24*

*21 Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ. 22 Wives, submit to your husbands as to the Lord. 23 For the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church, his body, of which he is the Savior. 24 Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit to their husbands in everything.*

*NIV*

To be a good home maker, the woman who is the wife must submit to the husband in love as the scripture has commanded. Submission is for orderliness in the family. There cannot be two captains in one ship. There cannot be two heads in one family. Since the man is the God assigned leader, the woman should submit to him and not try to control him. The home maker should submit no matter her status in the society, government or in business. Love makes submission possible. True love submits without difficulty. The home maker submits no matter her status because of the love in her heart for her husband.

Submission must be practiced no matter the economy of the family or that of the nation. Economy should not determine submission of a wife to her husband. The wife is expected to submit when the husband is buoyant and when he is not. Submission must be done within the limits of God's word and not outside it. It must be done willingly and not

under compulsion. When it is done under compulsion it is no longer submission but a response to intimidation. Submission enhances love and creates the atmosphere for peace to reign in the family. The husband's love for the wife propels the wife to submit to her husband. And her submission makes the husband to love her more. So, as much as the wife wants the husband to love her so also the husband wants the wife to submit to him.

### **3. REVERENCE**

The home maker is expected to reverence her husband. To reverence her husband is to respect her husband. She is to respect her husband in words and actions. She is expected to practice respect for him always no matter her experience in the marriage or in her personal life. Respect or reverence should be practiced in the secret and in the open – in private and in public. It should not be practiced as an eye service or for public show and deceit, but for real. Respect (Reverence) your husband.

*Eph 5:33*

*33 However, each one of you also must love his wife as he loves himself, and the wife must respect her husband.*

*NIV*

*1 Peter 3:1-10*

*3:1 Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, 2 when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. 3 Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. 4 Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. 5 For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful. They were submissive to their own husbands, 6 like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear. 7 Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers. 8 Finally, all of you, live in harmony with one another; be sympathetic, love as brothers, be compassionate and humble. 9 Do not repay evil with evil or insult with insult, but with blessing, because to this you were called so that you may inherit a blessing.*

*NIV*

Let your words show your reverence. Never be hasty with your words.

*Prov 15:1-5*

*A gentle answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger. 2 The tongue of the wise commends knowledge, but the mouth of the fool gushes folly. 3 The eyes of the LORD are everywhere, keeping watch on the wicked and the good. 4 The tongue that brings healing is a tree of life, but a deceitful tongue crushes the spirit. 5 A fool spurns his father's discipline, but whoever heeds correction shows prudence.*

*NIV*

#### **4. PRACTICE HOSPITALITY**

The home maker makes her home ready to welcome and entertain visitors including strangers. Showing hospitality is her way of life. She accepts, feeds, accommodates and entertains outsiders who come into her home. Woman, as a home maker, you should practice hospitality. Some, the scriptures tell us have even entertained angels without knowing it.

*Heb 13:2*

*2 Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some people have entertained angels without knowing it.*

*NIV*

Hospitality brings favour to the one who shows it to others. It is important that one practice it as occasion warrants it. Every good home should be prepared and managed to practice hospitality as God creates the opportunity

#### **5. SATISFY HER HUSBAND SEXUALLY**

The home maker has the responsibility of making her husband happy and longing for her and not for another. It is her responsibility to make him not to have any reason to become immoral and unfaithful to her by going to the streets to look for sexual satisfaction. She does this by satisfying her husband's sexual desires. As the home maker, you must:

1. Satisfy your husband romantically.
2. Do not deny or bet with your sexuality.
3. Allow your husband total freedom of sex expressions over you.
4. Adjust wherever necessary to satisfy each other.
5. Do not give sex as a Christmas Bonus.

#### **GAIN UNDERSTANDING AND MASTERY**

To be a good home maker, a good wife must have a working knowledge of her person, especially her feminine nature and master herself to be successful.

#### **YOUR WORDS**

1. The female expressive nature should be guided positively. It is a fact that women like to express themselves on every subject whether invited or not, whether it concerns them directly or not. Nevertheless, a good home maker should exercise restraint in making comments and expressing oneself, so you don't complicate issues or whip up anger or sentiments.
2. The female conservative nature should not be abused with gossip and slander.

*Titus 2:3*

*3 Likewise, teach the older women to be reverent in the way they live, not to be slanderers or addicted to much wine, but to teach what is good.*

*NIV*

3. You should avoid the temptation of using abusive words to settle your numerous domestic and ever continuing problems from husband, children and maids.
4. You as a home maker should always bless and not curse no matter the stress and situation, for you are in your particular home to build and not to destroy.

### **YOUR CREATIVITY**

Women by composition in creation are gifted to be creative and through their creativity make life enjoyable and exciting for the man, the husband and the children. With creativity the home maker can so package her meals, the look of her house, her bedroom, the husband and children that her family members won't want to be in any other place but home.

*Est 5:1-8*

*5:1 On the third day Esther put on her royal robes and stood in the inner court of the palace, in front of the king's hall. The king was sitting on his royal throne in the hall, facing the entrance. 2 When he saw Queen Esther standing in the court, he was pleased with her and held out to her the gold scepter that was in his hand. So Esther approached and touched the tip of the scepter. 3 Then the king asked, "What is it, Queen Esther? What is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be given you." 4 "If it pleases the king," replied Esther, "let the king, together with Haman, come today to a banquet I have prepared for him." 5 "Bring Haman at once," the king said, "so that we may do what Esther asks." So the king and Haman went to the banquet Esther had prepared. 6 As they were drinking wine, the king again asked Esther, "Now what is your petition? It will be given you. And what is your request? Even up to half the kingdom, it will be granted." 7 Esther replied, "My petition and my request is this: 8 If the king regards me with favor and if it pleases the king to grant my petition and fulfill my request, let the king and Haman come tomorrow to the banquet I will prepare for them. Then I will answer the king's question."*

*NIV*

Queen Esther used her creativity in creating the right atmosphere to be heard by her husband the King. He went for entertainment and suspense as a means of getting the king's heart ready to hear her petition against Haman the Agagite who wanted to destroy the Jews because of his hatred for Mordecai her uncle.

These are some of the areas that creativity is expected to be practiced:

1. Your prayer life.
2. Your physical appearance - Proverbs 6:24-29; 7:10
3. Your manner of approach - Ruth 3:1-18
4. Your dining table.

### **YOUR SPIRITUALITY**

*1 Peter 3:1-6*

*3:1 Wives, in the same way be submissive to your husbands so that, if any of them do not believe the word, they may be won over without words by the behavior of their wives, 2 when they see the purity and reverence of your lives. 3 Your beauty should not come from*

*outward adornment, such as braided hair and the wearing of gold jewelry and fine clothes. 4 Instead, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight. 5 For this is the way the holy women of the past who put their hope in God used to make themselves beautiful. They were submissive to their own husbands, 6 like Sarah, who obeyed Abraham and called him her master. You are her daughters if you do what is right and do not give way to fear.*

*NIV*

Jesus Christ in the heart of a man or woman makes a lot of difference. When a person is walking in the fear of God and is being led by the Holy Spirit, life becomes easier and experiences fewer crises, and marriage experiences peace and much joy. Spirituality matters in marriage. The more spiritual a person becomes the more improved his or her life becomes.

Your spirituality should cover these areas:

1. Prayer life
2. Witnessing with your life
3. Enforce spiritual values over materials.
4. Be humble and submissive.

## **YOUR DISCIPLINARY NATURE**

*Eph 6:1-4*

*6:1 Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 2 "Honour your father and mother"-which is the first commandment with a promise- 3 "that it may go well with you and that you may enjoy long life on the earth." 4 Fathers, do not exasperate your children; instead, bring them up in the training and instruction of the Lord. as you would obey Christ.*

*NIV*

It is true that the woman as a home maker is expected to take care of the children and the house helps, but that must be done with caution and wisdom so that the children respond well and become well trained. You must master yourself and make sure that you deal with the excesses in your life as far as security over the children and their discipline is concerned. Foul language should never be used on your children and the house helps.

Your understanding of your disciplinary nature should cover these areas:

1. A woman's security consciousness over her children.
2. Your fears over the children.
3. Your drastic actions over the children. Never give your children the impression that they are so precious that they can get away with just about anything they do whether they are wrong or not.
4. You must avoid child abuse and being over bearing for that can make them to hate you or become rebellious.

## **YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR HUSBAND**

To be a good home maker, you have to have a working knowledge of the male specie of man, especially your husband. This knowledge will help explain so many things you don't understand and reduce the quarrels in your marriage, and enable you to play your role as a home maker. You need to know about:

1. His competitive nature.
2. His risk taking nature.
3. His aggressive nature.
4. His suppressive nature.
5. His man power.
6. His sex life – why there is so much sex drive in men than in women, and what he wants as far as sex is concerned so as to satisfy him.
7. His philosophy.

### **CONCLUSION**

To be a good home maker, study carefully the things discussed in this study and use the knowledge gained to improve your life and management of your family life. Become a good home maker today and you will be happy you did.