

Sermon Notes

Concerns for the Family

#2 – “Women as Helpers”

I. Introduction.

A. Women – original calling.

1. Genesis 2:15-24
 2. “Not good that man was alone.”
 3. Helper does not refer to a lesser role but one of function.
 - a. Divine usage of the word “helper”
 1. Deuteronomy 33:7, 20; 121:1-2
- B. Pastor Don’s major assertion – Ladies, your primary calling in life is to be a helper.
1. You may have other callings, too, but the call to help is primary.

II. The Scriptural call to help.

A. Contrasted to men’s calling.

1. Called as priests.
 - a. Created first and names women – Gen. 2:23; 3:20
2. They also are called to work.
 - a. Genesis 1:28-30
 1. God provided all these things but labor was involved in the filling and subduing of the earth.
 2. Work cursed – directed at the man – Gen. 3:17-19

B. Yet, women even involved in the administration of the tabernacle.

1. Exodus 38:8; I Samuel 2:22
2. They were not involved with the ceremonial or ritual function, but they were involved.

C. Further texts on women’s helping role.

1. Luke 8:1-3
 - a. Women had a key role in supporting Jesus and the disciples.
 - b. Women filled the gap.
2. Acts 16:11-15
 - a. Women assembling on the Sabbath Day.
 - b. After Baptism Lydia displays hospitality.

3. Romans 16:1-2

- a. Phoebe singled out for her service.
- b. Helper of many.

4. Romans 16:3

- a. Prisca – a fellow worker with her husband.

5. Romans 16:6

- a. Mary – another hard worker (helper.)

D. Special focus – Dorcus

1. Acts 9:36-42

2. Her name

- a. Greek is Tabitha – Armenian: Dorcus.
 1. Both mean gazelle.
- b. Solomon’s remarks about his wife.
 1. Song of Solomon 2:9, 17; 4:5; 7:3; 8:14
 2. Here, the emphasis is on inner beauty.

3. The city of Joppa, verse 36.

- a. Location – 35 miles from Jerusalem.

4. She is a disciple, Verse 36.

- a. Convert under Philip? Acts 8:40

5. “Abounding” in good works.”

- a. KJV – “Full of”
- b. “Full of” used of God – Psalm 78:38; 86:15; 111:4
- c. Dorcus was full of the right qualities.
 1. Gives to the poor, verse 36
 2. Kindness and charity.
- d. Note Paul to Timothy.
 1. I Timothy 2:9-10

III. Points for Reflection

- A. Ladies, your primary calling is to be a helper.
- B. Men, knowing that your wife’s primary calling is to help, do not presume on your wives.
- C. Be careful of how much you give up in order to work outside the home.
- D. Where would men be without women?
- E. Where would the church be without women?