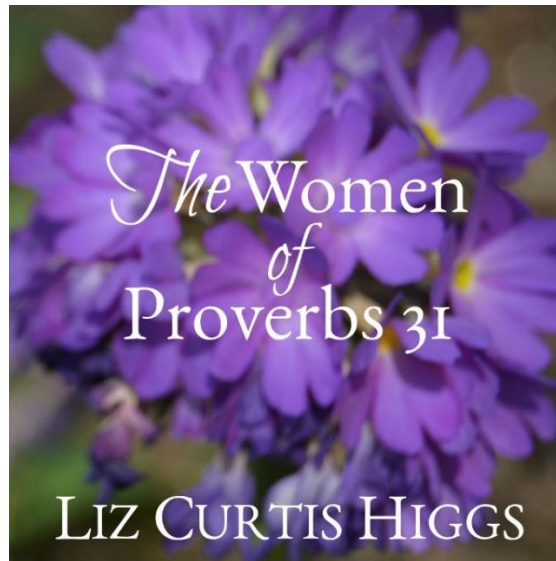


Word by Word with Liz Curtis Higgs on the Faith Radio Network
Bible Study Guide for May 26-27, 2018 | The Women of Proverbs 31 Part 2

Prepared by Liz Curtis Higgs



1. Welcome to the second half of our study of the *women* of Proverbs 31. Earlier in this chapter of the Bible we learned the value of working with wool and flax (verse 13) and spinning with distaff and spindle (verse 19). What modern skills might equate with those hands-on activities? Now in verses 21 and 22 we find exemplary women sewing for their families, their homes, and/or themselves. What do you notice in those verses about the quality of their creations? Which matters most: that she does the work herself *or* that the work is well done? Explain your answer and consider how that truth applies to you.
2. In verse 25, we find women of virtue are dressed in something of far greater value than a designer gown: “She is clothed with strength and dignity” (NIV). Describe what such a woman might look like—not physically but spiritually. And how do Ephesians 6:13-17 and Galatians 3:27 tell us to dress? Practically speaking, how could your attire, your actions, and your attitude project your faith in Christ?
3. Perhaps you were surprised to discover that your sense of humor and ability to laugh at yourself and at life really matters to the Lord. According to Proverbs 31:25, a woman of God “can laugh at the days to come” (NIV). Which is hardest and easiest for you: to laugh about the past? find humor in your present circumstances? or smile at the future?

4. After much instruction about what to do with our hands, Proverbs 31:26 focuses on the part of our bodies we use the most: our mouths: “She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue” (NIV). Pay close attention to what comes pouring out of your mouth for the next hour or two. Is it full of “kindness” (AMPC) and “grace” (GNV)? What advice do you find in the following verses: Psalm 37:30; Psalm 119:172; Proverbs 18:21; 1 Peter 3:10? Moving forward, how might you choose your words more wisely?

5. Proverbs 31:30 assures us, “Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting” (NIV). Think of an example of each of those two truths—something you’ve seen or experienced personally. What’s the problem with being charming? And what’s a better goal for a godly woman? If beauty is indeed “a vapor, a breath,” as the Hebrew meaning suggests, what could take its place that would last a lifetime?

6. What’s the most important lesson you’ve learned from Part 2 of the mother of King Lemuel’s “best of womanhood” list?