

## LESSON 1

# The True Woman's Purpose

Beauty · popularity · money  
influence · great clothes  
good grades · talent  
Cute Boyfriend

**SO WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?** Is there really a difference between God's way and the world's way?

### Matthew 5:11-12

*Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.*

### Matthew 5:38-39

*You have heard that it was said, "An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth." But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also.*

### Matthew 5:43-44

*You have heard that it was said, "You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy." But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you . . .*

**Yes! There's a difference!**

# ...our daughters will be like pillars carved to adorn a palace.

— Psalm 144:12b

## The Bible talks about 2 kinds of Pillars:

### 1. Lot's wife became a pillar of salt

#### Genesis 19: 15-17 & 24-26

*As morning dawned, the angels urged Lot, saying, "Up! Take your wife and your two daughters who are here, lest you be swept away in the punishment of the city." But he lingered. So the men seized him and his wife and his two daughters by the hand, the Lord being merciful to him, and they brought him out and set him outside the city. And as they brought them out, one said, "Escape for your life. Do not look back or stop anywhere in the valley. Escape to the hills, lest you be swept away." ...*

*Then the Lord rained on Sodom and Gomorrah sulfur and fire from the Lord out of heaven. And he overthrew those cities, and all the valley, and all the inhabitants of the cities, and what grew on the ground. But Lot's wife, behind him, looked back, and she became a pillar of salt.*

### She became stopped, trapped where she was. WHY?

### 2. David writes in Psalm 144 about the pillars that gave grace, beauty and dignity to the palace while supporting the structure.

What will I be?  
A pillar of salt?  
Or a pillar of grace,  
beauty & dignity?



**Luke 17:28-33**

Jesus said: Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot—they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all—so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed. On that day, let the one who is on the housetop, with his goods in the house, not come down to take them away, and likewise let the one who is in the field not turn back. Remember Lot's wife. Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it.

**Luke 1:26-45**

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!"

<sup>29</sup>But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup>and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

<sup>34</sup>And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

<sup>35</sup>And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God."

<sup>38</sup>And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

<sup>39</sup>In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, <sup>40</sup>and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. <sup>41</sup>And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, **Continued** ➡



<sup>42</sup>and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! <sup>43</sup>And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? <sup>44</sup>For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. <sup>45</sup>And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

1. What does Luke 1:28 tell us about Mary?
2. What was Mary’s question after the angel’s announcement? (v. 34)
3. What was the angel’s answer? (v. 35)
4. The angel promised that God’s \_\_\_\_\_ in her and His \_\_\_\_\_ over her would enable her to do what God had called her to do.
5. What was Mary’s response (v. 38)
6. This shows us that her purpose was \_\_\_\_\_ and her authority to know how to glorify God was \_\_\_\_\_



# Here's the BIG story... Jesus!!

## Genesis 3:15

*And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.*

## Galatians 4:4-5

*But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.*

In seeing herself as a servant,  
Mary gave up control to God.  
Her purpose was not her  
convenience, but God's glory!!

## The Westminster Shorter Catechism

### Q. 1. What is the chief end of man?

**A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever.**

### Q. 2. What rule hath God given to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy Him?

**A. The Word of God, which is contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, is the only rule to direct us how we may glorify and enjoy Him.**



# What's the difference between Lot's wife and Mary?

Lot's wife \_\_\_\_\_ God's word.

Mary \_\_\_\_\_ God's word.

## A true woman's prayer

Turn my heart toward your statutes  
and not toward selfish gain. Turn my eyes away  
from worthless things; Preserve my life  
according to your word.

—Psalm 119:36-37

### ✓ To Do

1. Tell your mother, grandmother or older friend what you learned in this lesson. Ask her to pray for you.
2. Memorize the answers to the Westminster Shorter Catechism questions 1 and 2.
3. Pray Psalm 119:36-37 every day.

*Turn my heart toward your statutes and not toward selfish gain. Turn my eyes away from worthless things; preserve my life according to your word (Psalm 119:36-37 NIV).*

4. Read Luke 1:26-38 several times. What do you learn about Jesus in vv. 31-33?