

## \*D GROUP – Life on Life Discipleship for Women of FBC

### OUTLINE

### Titus 2 for Women, Being a Godly Sensible Woman, Part I

#### THE ROLE OF WOMEN - OPENING DISCUSSION:

#1 What is your idea/concept of a sensible person? How would you describe him or her?

#2 Think of someone you would describe as sensible and explain why you think so.

#3 What are the dangers of not being a sensible woman?

*The CONTEXT of Titus 2...The Curriculum for older women to train the younger 4 that they may encourage the young women to love their husband, to love their children, 5 to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be dishonored.*

We are in the middle of a study that looks at what God's Word says in Titus 2 about godly women. The first quality teaches that a woman is to love her husband, with tender affection who truly likes her husband, who is friends with her husband. The second quality stresses her maternal role in loving her children, something that is sometimes easy and other times... We now come to verse 5 to see five more qualities in which older women should be training the younger women. Of course, that assumes that the older women are already practicing and modeling the same. What are the qualities we see? **Mentally** - she is to be sensible. **Morally** - she is to be pure. **Domestically** - she is to be a worker at home. **Socially** - she is to be kind. **Spiritually** - she is to be subject to her husband, so that the Word of God is not dishonored. This lesson will focus on the godly woman's role of being sensible.

What should be the overriding quality of the Christian woman's mind? What should your husband observe about you, your friends witness in your life, and your father be encouraged by when these people evaluate how you think? One word will describe the mind of the godly woman—sensible. Ladies, are you sensible?

**The Importance of Being Sensible** Being sensible is the most repeated quality in the book of Titus. Not only were the Christians on Crete having difficulty living what they believe, they also battled with their own Cretan society which actually encouraged their citizens to live senselessly. **Read Titus 1:12-14.** Notice Paul says it is true that Cretans are always liars, meaning they exercise no control over their speech. They are evil beasts, meaning they manifest wild, uncontrollable senseless behavior. And they are lazy gluttons, having no control over their appetites. Notice also, in verse 14, they pay attention to myths and tickle their ears with men's opinions. They allow their minds to be entertained with things that are not sensible instead letting the Word of God control their lives by yielding to the Spirit of God. Crete was just like our society is today—go for the gusto, let it all hang loose, “just do it,” indulge yourself, abandon yourself and give in to pleasure. Our culture encourages living without Being sensible. But Paul makes Being sensible the number one character quality for Titus to teach and model on Crete. Look at Titus 1:8 *“but hospitable, loving what is good, sensible, just, devout, self-controlled...”* Paul says Elders are to be sensible. Look at Titus 2:2 *“Older men are to be temperate, dignified, sensible, sound in faith, in love, in perseverance.”* Older men are to be sensible. It is implied in Titus 2:3, older women are to be sensible, since they are called to train the younger women to be sensible. Look at Titus 2:5,6. Both young men and young women are to be sensible. And look at Titus 2:12. The grace of God that brings salvation instructs all men and women, the young and the old, to live **sensibly** by *“instructing us to deny ungodliness and worldly desires and to live sensibly, righteously and godly in the present age.”*

**Being sensible is essential;** think about it. The consequences of not being trained to live sensibly are devastating. Without Being sensible, the Bible says a beautiful woman will look gross. Proverbs 11:22 *As a ring of gold in a swine's snout, So is a beautiful woman who lacks discretion.* What a picture! A beautiful gold ornament would become filthy in the snout of a pig; it would be an object of disgust instead of beauty. And God's Word compares this with a beautiful, perfect "10" woman who lacks sensible discretion—she becomes an object of disgust. Positively, a person being sensible has the ability to count the cost in every situation. This person is like the builder in Luke 14:28 who takes serious consideration before he builds a tower, and like the king in Luke 14:31 who has a serious discussion with himself before going to battle against a larger army. **The sensible woman thinks before she acts.** She is the one who plans ahead before shopping and organizes her room, her home, and her life. She strategizes how to live godly, premeditates her life goals and schooling, and seriously considers relationships and marriage. She does not neglect her spiritual life. In the book of Titus, God is telling all of us to take being sensible seriously. **Being sensible is a crucial habit** to develop in order that we can withstand the real tests that bombard us from our ungodly society and the stress of everyday circumstances and everyday relationships. Why? **Because that sounds sensible!**

**God's Goal of Being sensible** In order to hit the target of being sensible, you have to know what it looks like. So what does Paul mean when he says young women are to pursue becoming sensible? What is a sensible woman like? In the New Testament being sensible is described in three ways. *[continued...]*

**First, she is in her right mind.** Sensible is used this way in Luke 8:35 “*And the people went out to see what had happened; and they came to Jesus, and found the man from whom the demons had gone out, sitting down at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind*” [That’s the word sensible.] A sensible woman isn’t one French fry short of a happy meal. She isn’t mentally abnormal. She doesn’t slip into states where she is mentally unstable. She doesn’t freak out or become self-consumed, but she is in her right mind.

**Second, she is calm.** Peter uses sensible this way in 1 Peter 4:7 “*The end of all things is at hand; therefore, be of sound judgment [that’s the word sensible] and sober spirit for the purpose of prayer*”. A sensible woman rarely panics, becomes enraged or loses control over her emotions, but she thinks things through and prays about everything.

**Third, she uses common sense.** Paul says in Romans 12:3 “*think so as to have sound judgment, [that’s the word sensible] as God has allotted to each a measure of faith.*” A sensible person uses his or her mind to make Christ-honoring decisions on issues where the Bible is silent. Why? **Because that sounds sensible!**

In other words, the sensible female is a **thinking woman**. She is **morally alert**. She avoids watching or reading anything lurid. She avoids being alone with a man who is not her husband. She avoids extremes in her behavior. She exercises restraint in her speech, and **she thinks before she acts**. As Proverbs 14:16 says “*A wise man [or woman] is cautious and turns away from evil, But a fool is arrogant and careless.*”

To understand what it means to be sensible, it’s helpful to look at its **SYNONYMS**.

**Discretion** means to show good judgment and display discernment in one’s lifestyle. A single woman who lacks discretion will consider attention from a handsome male as love, even though it might be lust, friendship or genuine Christian concern. A woman without discretion might think the sign that says, “SALE” guarantees she’ll get a real bargain. But a woman with discretion compares everything to the Word of God, desiring to see all of life through God’s eyes. Why? **Because that sounds sensible!**

**Temperate:** means moderation with drink and with decisions. A temperate life is bound within self-imposed limitations. It avoids extremes and excesses. The lady who is not temperate might eat an entire box of chocolates in one sitting. But a woman who is temperate is going to avoid extremes of behavior. Why? **Because that sounds sensible!**

**Self-control** is being able to sacrifice immediate pleasures to secure ultimate purposes. Self-control is the choice to follow the Word of God over any other commitment, goal, school of thought or friend. The sensible person can show restraint over his or her own impulses, emotions, urges, wants and desires. An older woman without self control will not keep her thoughts captive to truth, but will allow herself to believe lies and think depressing thoughts. She will allow her emotions to dominate her world. But a woman with self control is going to sacrifice immediate pleasures to secure ultimate purposes. Being sensible increases a Christian’s **control, balance and discernment**. Why? **Because that sounds sensible!**

This gives us a good start on understanding what the Bible teaches us about being godly women who are sensible. In our next study we will look at how we this quality is needed in our thoughts, our emotions, our appearance, our finances, and our relationships. Then we can look at some practical steps that will help us develop become sensible.

### **QUESTIONS for Discipleship Groups For Married and Single Women**

1. Discuss some typical situations when women might find it difficult to be sensible?
2. Using the above examples, what measures can woman take to ensure they are being sensible?
3. Which of the above examples (or give another) has been a difficult area for you to be sensible? What thought, attitude or behavior needs to be put-aside in order for you to become mature in this essential godly trait?
4. Identify one other woman from your group to be your prayer and accountability partner for the next few weeks to help you in this area.