

A Wise Woman Builds Her House

Mission Valley Christian Fellowship
Fall 2007 Women's Study
with Sandra Giovinetti

Lesson One - Week Two

How Does a Wise Woman Build Her House?

*Dear Lord,
we've built this little house
with sloping eaves, and windows wide,
gray stone walls, and rustic doors,
and paneled all inside.*

*We've prayed
and planned and built this house.
And here we pause, for You alone
can by Your presence hallow it
and make this house a home.*

--Ruth Graham

Dear Ladies: Begin each lesson with prayer. Ask God to open your heart and mind. Be honest with yourself and God.

THE FOUNDATION

Read Proverbs 9:10, Matthew 6:33, Luke 10:27, and 1 Corinthians 3:10-13

1. What is the first thing we should do before we "build our house?"

2. How does the dictionary define the following words?:

--Build

--Home

--Woman

--Wise

MEMORY VERSE FOR THIS WEEK:

*The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom:
and the knowledge of the holy is understanding. -- Proverbs 9:10*

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Read Proverbs 14:1

3. How might a woman be tearing down her house without realizing it?

Read Proverbs 14:3 and 14:5, James 3:3-12, Psalm 5:9, 34:13, and 39:1, and Proverbs 17:20

4. Much is written about the tongue's ability to "tear down." Can you name specific examples of how talk can be destructive?

Read Hebrews 12:15, Proverbs 14:5, and 2 Timothy 1:7

5a. Define "murmur."

5b. Some people murmur too much. In contrast, a truthful witness sometimes has to say things that might be hard for others to hear. How does God instruct us to be strong in times like this? How can you pray that the Lord would guide your thoughts and your words?

Read Deut. 4:9, 6:7, 11:19, 29:29 and 32:46; Psalm 78:5; Proverbs 13:24, 22:6, 22:15, 23:13, and 29:15; Matthew 19:14; and Ephesians 6:4

6. How does the Lord instruct us to raise our children?

Read Proverbs 14:26

7a. Why is a person who fears the Lord safe?

7b. How can our children benefit when we fear the Lord?

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Read Proverbs 14:15

8. How does the dictionary define:

--*prudence*? What does prudence mean to you?

--*knowledge*? What does knowledge mean to you?

Read Proverbs 8:5, 8:12, and 19:25; and Matthew 7:7-8

9a. The Lord *instructs* us to gain prudence. How can we do this successfully?

Read Proverbs 1:7, Hosea 4:6, and James 3:13 -18

9b. What do infer from the above scriptures?

Read Proverbs 14:21, 14:31, 31:20, and 31:27;

10. The Lord instructs us to “budget in” helping the needy. Have you done this? What steps could you take to do this?

Read Proverbs 14:23 and 21:22; Matthew 7:7; and 1 Timothy 5:14

11. Building and guiding your home takes *work!* What type of skills would you like to ask the Lord to give you in order to be that “Wise Woman?”

Read 1 Corinthians 8:1

12. What essential “building block” for your home is mentioned in this verse?

Read 2 Corinthians 5:1 and Hebrews 9:11

13. What sort of safety net do Christians have?

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DIGGING DEEPER (optional):

1. In what ways could you be better at building up your house?

2. Are you involved in any behavior now that is detrimental to building your home?

Read Exodus Chapters 25 - 27

3. God gives us perfect, complete instructions on building our homes and our lives, and He really *is* in the details. In fact, He tells Moses in the book of Exodus to build the tabernacle "*Exactly as I show you.*" One-third of the book of Exodus reveals God's exact instructions. Jewish scholars note that the creation of the tabernacle parallels the Lord's creation of the universe, complete with a time of rest!

List anything else you notice about these chapters. Feel free to bring in scripture from other areas of the Bible if the Lord reveals something significant to you!

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