
EMBRACING THE CALL
You & Titus 2 Newsletter
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Influential Lives

And those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky above; and those who turn many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

Daniel 12:3

The most famous women in my life never stood on a single platform. Instead, they are often standing faithfully at their kitchen sink caring for their family or at a hospital bed comforting a friend. They have sincere love for others because they have experienced the greatest love, God's love (1John 4:19). Serving is an opportunity to be like their Master (John 13:14-17). Over cups of coffee or working side by side in ministry projects, these women have poured into me countless examples of biblical wisdom and faith. They are strong and beautiful testimonies of the Scriptures they trust so securely. For each of the ladies who come to mind, their loving relationship with God and reverent fear of Him make them famous in my discipleship.

Godly women, willing to connect with and encourage their younger sisters in Christ (out of obedience to the Titus 2:3-5 mandate), desire to make Christ famous. Their great goal is not to make themselves more important or necessary. It is a noble eternal goal of pointing to the importance of God and the necessity of His Spirit and His Word. And even when they are mistreated or rejected for their honorable lives, they persevere in love knowing God's glory is a greater blessing to others than personal fame (1 Peter 2:12).

Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

1 Peter 2:12

Many of the famous women in my discipleship have gone to be with the Lord. Their reliance on the Truth of Scripture and the power of God's Spirit produced an influence that impacts how many women live out their faith today. The ripple effect of their lives in Christ will radiate through the generations. I can't help but smile at their joy in Glory when realizing the extent of their role as servants of the Most High God!

Learning about Eternal Influence

C. T. Studd (1860 - 1931) was born to a family of wealth in the United Kingdom. After graduating from Trinity College in Cambridge, he joined Hudson Taylor on the mission field in China. He once said, "Some wish to live within the sound of church or chapel bell, I want to run a rescue shop within a yard of hell." His dedication to a life of missionary effort also took him to India and Africa. He and his wife faithfully shared the gospel until their deaths while serving in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

C. T. Studd was a fascinating man who never made a secret of his great passion for God. His work was often in obscured areas of the world where he went to share the gospel. Obviously, his goal was not to make himself famous but Christ! Yet, he is best known for the poem “Only One Life” which (over 40 years after his death) inspired the song written by Lanny Wolfe in 1973. One of the poem’s nine stanzas reads,

Give me Father, a purpose deep,
In joy or sorrow Thy word to keep;
Faithful and true what e’er the strife,
Pleasing Thee in my daily life;
Only one life, ’twill soon be past,
Only what’s done for Christ will last.

It is a blessing to live a life of purpose, pleasing the Father by doing His will. Godly women have a purposeful responsibility to influence the next generation (Titus 2:3-5). We can embrace this calling or reject it. We can make God famous in the lives of others by depending on the authority of His Word and the power of His Spirit, or we can make our own way seeking our own will. No life is eternally purposeful apart from obedience to God. It is a sobering thought that this life will soon be past. Let’s prayerfully live it so that what is accomplished will last.

24 But I do not account my life of any value nor as precious to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the gospel of the grace of God.

Acts 20:24 ESV

6 So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body, we are away from the Lord, 7 for we walk by faith, not by sight. 8 Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. 9 So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. 10 For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil. 11 Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. But what we are is known to God, and I hope it is also known to your conscience.

2 Corinthians 5:6-11

Discussion Questions:

1. Have godly women had an eternal impact on your life as a Christian woman? Have you let them know the positive influence they have had?
2. Read Daniel 12:3 and Matthew 5:16. What are the similarities between these two passages? From where does the light come? Discuss things that hinder Christian women from this type of influential life?
3. 1 Peter 3:12 is not a suggestion. Why is this God’s command for His people? Just as in Matthew 5:16, there is a result to our good deeds for God’s glory; what is it?
4. Young people are often unaware of how quickly life passes by. Read 1 Corinthians 5:6-11. How do these verses help us understand the purposefulness of our lives in Christ no matter our age? (1 Timothy 4:12 helps answer this question.)

Trainer's Prayer List

Pray that they will beneficially love their husbands

Pray that they will beneficially love their children

Pray for their self-control

Pray for their purity

Pray for their work at home

Pray for their hearts to show kindness

Pray for wisdom in following their husband

