

#### IV. She is a Wise Warrior (31:28-31)

- A. Just as Wisdom is supreme, this woman surpasses them all.
- B. While “*charm is deceitful, beauty is fleeting*” the stuff on this list will endure.
- C. The book of Proverbs begins calling the son to pursue *Wisdom like a wife*, and ends with the *wise woman he is to pursue for a wife*.

*You can't be embracing wisdom, and a foolish woman at the same time. What you set out to embrace in a woman reveals your heart.*

- D. Life is war... choose wisely.

#### LIVE THE STORY

*The Gospel is intended to be learned and lived in community. The following questions are designed for use in our Community Groups as an aid to growth in the Gospel and Community.*

- Why is a message to sons about how to choose a wife also a message to daughters? How does it speak to those who have been married for some time (husbands and wives)?
- How do Proverbs 21:19, and 12:4 qualify or explain 18:22?
- Have you or did you ever make a list of what you thought you needed in a spouse? If so, how does God's list compare to what you thought you should have on your list? How do the differences allow you to put into practice Proverbs 3:5?
- What do you think of the statement that what a man needs in a wife is a battle companion for the war of life? Explain.
- How does what we look for in a spouse reveal our heart?
- What did you take away from this message that you can apply in your own life, no matter what your status?
- How does this poem inform us that the whole book addressed to sons is for daughters also?

#### Choose a Wife for the War of Life

Jerry Cisar — May 10, 2015

**Text:** Proverbs 31:10-31

#### Introduction: Choosing a Wife

- A. Finding a Wife
  - i. Proverbs 18:22
  - ii. Proverbs 19:14
  - iii. Proverbs 21:19
  - iv. Proverbs 12:4

- B. An A-Z List in Finding a Wife

#### I. She is a Noble Warrior (31:10)

- A. “*A wife of noble character...*”

*Just like a military hero conquers his foes, this wife conquers the world-around-her for the good of her family and others.*

- B. Choose a battle companion for the war of life!

## II. She is a Trusted Warrior (31:11-18)

- A. *Her husband has full confidence in her...*
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- B. 11b: *"He doesn't lack **spoil**, or **plunder**."* From where do her spoils come?
  - i. 13 Wool/flax... She takes the raw materials of life and produces the necessary provisions for her family.
  
  
  
  
  
  - ii. 14 She is industrious and innovative.
  
  
  
  
  
  - iii. 15 (Waltke): *"She arises while it is still night and provides **prey** for her household."*
  
  
  
  
  
  - iv. 16-18 the work she does profits the family, not draining the family of its resources.
  
  
  
  
  
  - v. vs. 18 her lamp does not go out at night...

## III. She is a Faithful Warrior (31:19-27)

- A. This wife is actively furthering the welfare of the community, but never to the neglect of her family.
  
  
  
  
  
- B. How is it that she is faithful?
  - i. She closes her hands around work and opens her hands to others.
  
  
  
  
  
  - ii. (21) She is prepared even for the extreme conditions
  
  
  
  
  
  - iii. (22) This is a together person; not sloppy.
  
  
  
  
  
  - iv. (24) She exports her productivity.
  
  
  
  
  
  - v. (25) She is ready for whatever the future may dish out.
  
  
  
  
  
  - vi. (26) She imparts wisdom to her children and others.
  
  
  
  
  
  - vii. (27) She manages her household well... and is not eating the delights of idleness.
  
  
  
  
  
- C. In the Hebrew bible, Proverbs is immediately followed by Ruth.
  - i. Ruth 3:11
  
  
  
  
  
  - ii. Ruth 2:7
  
  
  
  
  
  - iii. Ruth 3:10
  
  
  
  
  
- D. As a faithful warrior, she transforms the world around her.