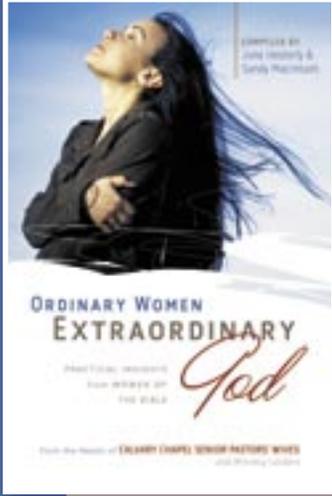


B O O K R E V I E W S

Whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy - meditate on these things. Philippians 4:8



Ordinary Women, Extraordinary God

Compiled by June Hesterly and Sandy MacIntosh

ISBN: 1-931667-96-9

DON'T YOU LONG TO BE EXTRAORDINARY?

In *Ordinary Women, Extraordinary God*, Calvary Chapel pastors' wives and ministry leaders—including Kay Smith, Cathe Laurie, and Diane Coy—point to the One who can take your ordinary life and make it extraordinary for Him.

This collection of snapshots from the lives of women of the Bible is not a reference work, but a series of Bible studies filled with personal insights and challenging applications. Each author highlights one or two women, reminding us of the rewards of faith and the consequences of sin. From Mary Magdalene to Hannah, Dorcas, and Ruth—you will see yourself in women whose destinies were transformed when their simple faith met the power of God. You will also see yourself in their flaws and gain new hope to move beyond failure to a life of victory. Reflection questions at the end of each chapter invite you to draw your own conclusions and apply biblical truth to your life. *Ordinary Women, Extraordinary God* will leave you longing for more of our extraordinary God!



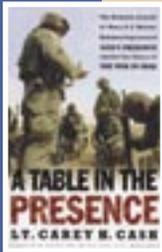
David Livingstone Rob Mackenzie

ISBN: 1-85792-615-3

THE TRUTH BEHIND THE LEGEND

David Livingstone, perhaps the best known missionary of them all. The account of a poor lad from Scotland whose attempts to find the source of the Nile and his famous meeting with Henry Morton Stanley have become the stuff of legend. The truth behind the legend, however, is even more compelling.

Drawing extensively from Livingstone's personal notes and letters, the author tells the story of a man with a vision—to set souls free from slavery, and to open up Africa to Christianity and lawful commerce. An amazing story awaits you!



A Table in the Presence Lt. Carey H. Cash

ISBN: 0-8499-1823-5

YOU PREPARE A TABLE BEFORE ME IN THE PRESENCE OF MY ENEMIES.

—PSALM 23:5

In Operation Iraqi Freedom, Lieutenant Carey Cash crossed the border into Iraq with the first ground combat force, the 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment. Serving as chaplain, Lt. Cash witnessed many miracles during the hostilities—culminating 4/10/03, when troops led the attack on Saddam Hussein's presidential palace. However, after the smoke settled, only one American had lost his life. Lt. Cash recounts the remarkable events of this powerful story of God's faithfulness.



Secret Keeper Dannah Gresh

ISBN: 0-8024-3974-8

THE DELICATE POWER OF MODESTY

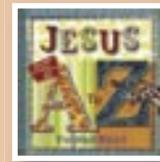
Teen girls ache to be noticed and adored. And yet the mark that God sets for Christian women is modesty. What is the balance between today's fashions and God's standards?

Dannah Gresh, author of *And the Bride Wore White*, gives scriptural and relevant answers. This book is meant for young women, but anyone will benefit from its honest approach to sexual purity, addressing both external and internal modesty. *Secret Keeper* will encourage and challenge its reader to love God first.

Jesus A to Z

Yvonne Riley

ISBN: 0-8024-2945-9



"WHAT BETTER WAY TO TEACH CHILDREN THE GLORY OF JESUS THAN TO COMBINE IT WITH THEIR LEARNING OF THE ALPHABET? AN INSPIRED IDEA!"—CHUCK SMITH

As a mother of two, Yvonne Riley was looking for a short, concise book that simplified biblical truths. When she couldn't find one, she wrote *Jesus A to Z* to fill this gap. Enjoyable for parents too, this is a wonderful tool to teach your children about the love of Jesus. (Includes a Crystal Lewis CD, featuring 5 music tracks and the audio version of *Jesus A to Z*, also read by Crystal.)

You should be able to obtain copies of the above materials through your local Calvary Chapel bookstore. If there is not a bookstore in your area, please contact:

The Word For Today: P.O. Box 8000, Costa Mesa, CA 92628 **Phone:** 714-825-WORD (9673) / 800-272-WORD

Qualities of a Sound Church

BY PASTOR BRIAN BRODERSEN



“But as for you, speak the things which are proper for sound doctrine.” Titus 2:1

Paul left Titus on the island of Crete to establish its church. He wanted Titus to teach that Christianity is more than a creed to believe—it is a belief to act upon.

Concerning older men, Paul writes, *“Be sober, reverent, temperate.”* He is making a contrast to being intoxicated. A drunken person is excessive, careless, thoughtless; those who are sober, however, should be thoughtful and mentally stable. Paul then calls older men to be *“sound in faith, in love, and in patience.”* The church needs their wisdom and experience. Recently, I spoke to an elderly gentleman. I was amazed at his insight and love for the Lord. Afterward, I thought, That was great fellowship. We need to benefit from godly, older men.

In verse 3, Paul writes, *“Older women ... [are to be] reverent in behavior, not slanderers, not given to much wine, teachers of good things—that they admonish the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, to be discreet, chaste, homemakers, good, obedient to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be blasphemed.”* Evidently, some of the Christians in Crete were hanging onto old habits. Paul makes it clear that those things are to be left behind.

Younger women are to be discreet and chaste, or “pure.” They are also to be good homemakers. I don’t believe Paul is stating dogmatically that women cannot work outside the home. Some women have no choice. After my father left, my mother had to work every day to support four children. I know God will honor her for that. Paul is teaching priorities. Feminism has so influenced today’s culture that

a homemaker can be looked down upon. Yet, keeping a home and raising children is a great accomplishment!

Paul then says women are to be good, which is better translated “kind,” and they are to be *“obedient to their own husbands.”* Those

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the grace of God empowers us
to live rightly.

who hate God and the Bible always distort this concept to mean that men may mistreat their wives. Paul said, *“Husbands, love your wives as Christ loved the church”* (see Ephesians 5). Obviously, a man who loves his wife as Christ loved the church isn’t going to abuse her.

Paul continues, *“Likewise, exhort the young men to be sober minded.”* Young men have great potential. We are to encourage them to have a balanced perspective on life. Paul then speaks directly to Titus: *“[Show] yourself to be a pattern of good works.”* Titus is the key leader in the country. Paul exhorts, *“Titus, make sure your life is consistent with your message.”*

“In doctrine showing integrity, reverence [seriousness].” Some preachers’ messages seem like stand-up comedy routines. Humor can be a real blessing, and it can help to communicate truth, but it can also be a hindrance. The Scriptures deal with serious subjects.

Paul adds that the overseer is to maintain incorruptibility according to doctrine. *“Sound speech that cannot be condemned, that one who is an opponent may be ashamed, having nothing evil to say of you.”* People will make allegations. Live a

life that will cause them to be ashamed of their false accusations.

“Exhort bondservants to be obedient to their own masters ... that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Savior in all things.” This exhortation applies to the employer/employee relationship. Either we have a powerful testimony or do great disservice to the cause of Christ. The word *adorn* is the Greek word from which we

get “cosmetics.” Cosmetics enhance natural beauty, and a godly lifestyle makes the doctrine of God attractive.

Paul says, *“The grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age.”* Salvation is available to all people, but many have misinterpreted the grace of God, suggesting that once you have said the sinner’s prayer, your lifestyle doesn’t matter. Paul is saying that the grace of God empowers us to live rightly.

“Looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.” When Jesus died upon the cross, He redeemed us so He could have His own special people who would be zealous for good works.

Finally, Paul says, *“Speak these things ... with all authority. Let no one despise you.”* May the Lord enable us to show good fidelity in all things that the doctrine of God would be glorified, that our lives would enhance the beauty of the Gospel message, and that people would see us and be attracted to Christ. ✨