

The Gift of Womanhood: Be the Gift and Give the Gift

I want to begin by asking you a question.

Do you believe that being a woman is really a gift?

If you don't think it is, perhaps you're focusing upon the fact that women are often abused, frequently don't get the benefits that men get and to top it off, women have to endure the pain of childbirth? What's to love in any of those things, except the baby after the pain, of course!

However, if we focus on the negatives of being a woman in this world, which incidentally, are the aspects that the devil himself wants us to focus upon, we're definitely going to miss the fullness of the gift, for the truth is that it is a gift to have been made a woman because God made each one of us and He doesn't make mistakes!

In fact I think it's so important for us not only to recognize this amazing gift but to take hold of it in all its fullness to enjoy the benefits for ourselves and to share them with our daughters and anyone else God reveals as needing to discover the beauty and magnitude of His gift.

Now, I'm sure you know that it's impossible to give something that you don't possess – right! So, it's important for you to understand and value your gift for yourself, and I want to help you by sharing King David's words from Psalm 139:14.

I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well.

I now want to ask you a second question:

Do you believe you are wonderfully made?

Would your family and friends describe you as knowing you're a gift from God. Do they hear you talking about being a real life princess – born of the one true King or are they more used to hearing you complaining by saying things like, I wish I was taller, I wish my nose was thinner or fatter, I wish my skin was lighter or darker? I wish I wish, I wish!!!

Are you wishing your gifts away or are you in a place where you can accept what God is trying to tell you?

If the answer is that you've been wishing them away, then it's time to stop; it's time to start appreciating God's handiwork in you.

OK, we're off to a good start, but I want to reinforce this by looking at what else scripture has to say in Genesis 1:27: **So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.**

So, not only are you fearfully and wonderfully made like King David but you have been created in God's image. You really are a created masterpiece; YOU are a treasured gift of God. To have a peek at how valuable you are, I want you to come on a journey with me to visit 'Why', 'What, and 'How.

Why?

Why did God create you – not women in general but YOU specifically?

Think about it and try and come up with an answer.

Perhaps you're thinking, I have no idea why I was created, but if you have come up with an answer, I'm guessing that you will not have considered yourself as having been created for your job! That's right – you were not created for your job. You may be relieved to hear that, but perhaps you have a fantastic job that you love, but let me tell you that you were still not created for your job! Our jobs are just a part of the journey of experience that God has called each of us to take.

So what were you created for? Before we can address that, we need to ask the more general question of why God created people.

Why do you think God created people?

You know, King David asked this same question. In Psalm 8:3-4 we can read of him asking: **When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers ... what is man that you are mindful of him, the son of man that you care for him?**

The bible of course, is the perfect place from which to seek the answer to all of our questions, and in Colossians 1:16, we can read: **All things were created by him and FOR him.**

Did you get that answer right? The fact is that God created you for His pleasure and, out of pure love, so that you could come to experience the joy of knowing Him and eventually enjoy spending your eternity with Him – yes, life goes on, death isn't the end!

But what does the joy of knowing Him entail? Are we just meant to exist for a short time doing whatever we feel like doing until He calls us home, or does He want more for us than that?

What are we supposed to be doing? What are **You** supposed to be doing?

Again, our manual for life, the bible, is very helpful. In Ephesians 2:10 we're told, **We are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.**

Do you know what that really means?

It means YOU have been created with a life plan. God has the perfect plan for your life and if you accept His invitation, He will reveal this plan to you step-by-

step and day-by-day! In fact, if you accept His invitation, you cannot lose! He will personally reveal what you are meant to be doing and how you are to do it!

What?

God has clearly planned for us to do good works, but what exactly does that mean?

[Can you and I even determine what a good work is?](#)

I think not because human beings, yes, even His beautifully created women, have limited vision. We cannot see what tomorrow holds. For example, we might think it good to give money to a beggar, but if the beggar then uses it to buy heroin and that kills him, our 'good work' comes crashing down around us! We haven't the mind or vision of God, so we must decide to be led by Him if we're not to ruin His plans for ourselves and for others.

Now as we're all unique beings with a unique plan, I cannot go any further regarding your personal plan because He desires to reveal that to you Himself, so dig deeper into relationship with Him so that He can lead you.

There is, however, one good work in which He wants us all to become involved, so I'm on safe ground sharing details. This work is known as The Great Commission and it's so important that all of our individual tasks as Women of God are designed to serve this one collective task! First, however, I must ask a question.

[Have you heard of the Great Commission?](#)

If you understand what that is, you can skip this paragraph, but if not, let me tell you that it's God's plan as laid out in Matthew 28:16-20, and it reveals that every Christian is called to help light the path to Christ for others, so they too can receive His gift. This is because He doesn't want anyone to go to the human default destination of Hell – He wants to rescue every single being and He wants us to help. With that firmly in mind, it's time to visit 'How'!

How?

[How exactly are we meant to perform this key role that God has given to us?](#)

The truth is that before we can play our part, and share His gift, we need to be rejoicing in our own gift and at least on the road to becoming all that God designed us to be.

[How can you move forward so that every day from this moment on, you walk in your gift and share it with others?](#)

Well, the very best place to start is by being thankful – so begin by thanking Him for making you who you are, and if you can't because you don't have a personal relationship with Him through Jesus Christ, then let me tell you that it's no accident that you reading this! God is the one who decided He wanted you to

read these words, and prompted you to do so. He's calling out and saying, "Give it all to me!" I know what you're looking for, I know what you've been through and I know what you're going through right now. I am here for you. Give your life to me today and I will lead you to better things than you could ever imagine - only I can lead you to absolute fulfilment.

Of course, after giving Him thanks for making you who you are, you need to give him thanks for where you are in His plan today, for in addition to showing appreciation, this tells Him that you trust Him. This is especially true when you're going through trials, so if you're not in a happy place in life right now, don't worry; you're on a journey and all journeys have their ups and downs - and your very situation is a part of Him refining you to become all that He created you to become.

One thing we all need to do in the midst of a trial is be honest with ourselves. If you don't have a relationship with Him already, He's definitely calling you to invite Him into your life. If you have accepted Him already, He may be saying, I love you; you know me, but you're not letting me lead you. You're trying to do it on your own, but it's time to follow me instead of just knowing me because I have the most perfect plan for your life and without me, you're just not going to find it!

If this is not you, but you are struggling in some way, then be encouraged to talk to Him. As well as asking Him to deliver you, ask Him what you're meant to be learning from your particular situation. He is not a joker who is playing a game with your life. Every situation He puts you in has a purpose in your Kingdom journey. So, the answer regarding 'how' is very clear. God has the answers you need, and the reality is that He has blessed you with the Holy Spirit to lead the way.

Into the Future

If you are a Christian, the day you committed your life to Christ, you also received the Gift of the Holy Spirit, which means that each and every day, you have the choice to let Him lead you into your God-designed future or to go your own way. Once you realise that no one but the Holy Spirit can lead you successfully, you will be more than willing to ask for His leading, but do know that this is not a one-time event? Every minute of every day, He is with you wanting to point the way, but if you fail to involve Him, you'll definitely run the risk moving away from God's wonderful and unique plan for your life.

Of course, you'll find lots of people willing to give you advice, but man's wisdom is sorely lacking and doesn't come close to that which God is willing to give you directly! A word of warning though! God is not the only one who has a plan for your life!

Are you aware that God has an enemy and so do you?

I hope so, but if not, I wouldn't be surprised because Satan, God's enemy, and ours, likes to have people believe he doesn't exist because from that position, he has more power to destroy people's lives!

Are you aware that Satan has a plan for your life?

He actually has a very clear plan for your life but it's the exact opposites of God's. Heaven is not his preferred destination for you! The enemy will tell you that you don't need Jesus, and if you already have Jesus in your life, he will try telling you that your future depends on you – your cleverness, your strategy, your qualifications, etc. etc.

In fact, the only way to ensure that he doesn't destroy your life is to receive Christ as your Lord and Saviour and start believing Him and not just believing in Him. You know, Satan believes in God – he knows God is real, but he was so conceited that he didn't believe Him – he didn't believe what God said, which is why Satan is where he is today – doomed!

The enemy will try every trick in his book to stop you from receiving your inheritance from Christ. If you have a weakness, he'll try to use it to drag you down, and if that doesn't work, he's got plenty of other distractions that he will attempt to use on you, but no matter how appealing his temptations may appear at times, you must remember that he has nothing but evil intentions towards you and nothing he can offer will ever be worth forsaking Jesus and his Word.

This is especially true to remember when you're going through tough times. Romans 8:28 says: **All things work together for good, for those who love the Lord and are called according to His purposes.** This is a wonderfully encouraging truth, but there are two significant elements that you need to be aware of in this scripture. The first is the phrase 'For those' because these words show that the good outcome is conditional **All things work together for good, FOR THOSE who love the Lord.** This means that good outcomes are not guaranteed for those who do not love the Lord.

The second element focuses around the word 'All' because 'All' means, 'Everything'. This means that when things are tough, you need to remember to tell God that you know there is a reason for the situation you are in and that you know He's weaving it into a future good outcome. You also need to remember to ask Him what you need to learn through the tough times, and then listen to Him, for if you don't do this, you cannot grow.

When we clearly understand Romans 8:28, it captures and combines beautifully with the promise of Jeremiah 29:11: **I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.**

If you already embrace the gift of your Womanhood, let me encourage you not to keep His wonderful blessing to yourself, but to go and share it with all of the women God has put and will put into your life. Of course, if you're not quite there yet, and still need to receive Christ or you have not yet come to appreciate your gift, you only need to ask Him to help you and be ready to listen.

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