



# *Adorned*

*Small Group  
Discussion Questions*



There's no better way to learn how to live out Titus 2 than when women are gathered together. We're glad to be able to help you dive deeper into Adorned by providing these questions. May they spark God-glorifying conversations and life change. We're with you . . . and honored to serve you!

## CHAPTER 1

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- Share about a time you felt the most adorned, the most beautiful.
- When was the last time an older woman imparted encouragement and exhortation to you? Tell us about it.
- You were not meant to adorn the gospel on your own. What “tools” has God given you to help you accomplish this task?
- Is your life currently adorning—or reviling—the gospel? In what areas/ways?
- Who are the younger women in your life? How can you give to and invest in them?
- What older women do you know? How can you receive from them?

## CHAPTER 2

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- What is your first reaction to the word doctrine? Why does doctrine matter so much?
- Like Nancy's friend Holly, did you use to have any wrong doctrine? What was it, and how did it affect the way you lived?
- How have you seen sound doctrine radically change everything about you?
- Which of the two dangers do you tend more toward: living without sound doctrine or being “all head, no heart”?
- Sound doctrine is true and right. But it is also beautiful and good. Would people come to that conclusion as they look at our lives? Why or why not?

- Paul identified six ways that Christian lives should differ radically than those of unbelievers. Discuss these distinctives.
- Do you agree that every failure and flaw in our lives flows out of some sort of doctrinal deficiency? Why or why not?
- Nineteenth-century German philosopher Heinrich Heine said, “Show me your redeemed life and I might be inclined to believe in your Redeemer.”
- What difference does it make if we live godly lives in an ungodly world?

## CHAPTER 3

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- Do you believe you can actually become more beautiful, not less, as you age? Why or why not?
- Have you ever seen this age-defying beauty modeled in an older woman? Describe her beauty.
- How might the choices you’re making today affect the older woman you will someday be?
- Is your love growing—abounding “more and more” (Phil. 1:9)? Are you more focused on the needs of others than on your own needs? Is your love deeper, richer, and healthier than it was a year ago, a decade ago?
- Do you dread aging? Has this chapter changed your mind about that at all? If so, what about it encouraged you to embrace the aging process?
- As you face your next birthday, how can you specifically plan to increase in spiritual health?
- Do you tend to gravitate to your peers at the exclusion of women in other age groups? What specific steps can you take to develop intergenerational relationships?

## CHAPTER 4

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- Do you believe that God has a purpose for you in this season of life that is vital and that no one but you can fulfill? Why or why not?
- Who are you learning from? Is it mostly your peers? What online communities are saturating your thinking and relationships? What celebrities are shaping your values, your sense of identity and purpose?
- How do you view this mandate to teach younger women—as one more burden to shoulder or as an incredible privilege and joy?

- What picture does “teaching” conjure in your mind? Did this chapter blow any of those stereotypes?
- What is so costly about this kind of lifestyle, and what makes it so worthwhile?
- How willing are you to seek out and receive the involvement of older women in your life? Do you have a teachable spirit? Or do you leave the impression that you and your peers can figure life out on your own?
- What older, godly woman can you seek out and ask if she’d be open to visiting with you on occasion? Will you do that this week?
- Do you feel too busy to commit to a mentoring relationship? If so, which “less important things” would you be willing to give up?

## CHAPTER 5

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- What picture comes to mind when you hear the word “reverence”? Did this chapter paint it in a different light?
- What older woman do you know who exhibits “reverence”?
- What is attractive to you about reverence? What is unattractive to you about it?
- What do you believe younger women need more: your perceived relevance or your reverence? Why?
- How should reverence impact your appearance? Your attitude? Your lifestyle?
- Where does reverent behavior begin? Is this a high priority in your life? Why or why not?

## CHAPTER 6

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- How is slander devilish? Does this seem too harsh a description to you? Why or why not?
- Jesus included the sin of slander in the same list as murder, adultery, and sexual immorality (Matt. 15:19). Are you as concerned and shocked over the sin you commit with your tongue as you are over the evil behavior of others?
- Is it possible for your words to be slander even if they’re true and your intention wasn’t to hurt that person? Why?

- “Just because we know something doesn’t mean we need to share it.” Do you agree? Why or why not?
- Which of the seven practical steps from this chapter do you especially need to put into practice right now?
- Do you think you’re more in danger of falling into slander based on your personality? Why or why not? How can you actively prepare to prevent this sin?
- Do you think there are any exceptions to the following statement? “If the person with whom you’re sharing this concern is not part of the problem or part of the solution . . . don’t say it!”
- How much slander could you displace if you were more intentional about speaking words of grace and encouragement?

## CHAPTER 7

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- In what areas are you given to indulgence and excess? Are you driven to have too much of anything?
- Is your life temperate? Is it disciplined? Is it fruitful and productive and bounded by godly ways of thinking? Or are you just taking your ease, indulging yourself, doing whatever brings you pleasure or numbs your pain?
- Is there any substance, habit, or activity—anything—that you deem essential to your happiness, sanity, or survival?
- Did you identify with any of the common compulsions listed in this chapter that enslave many women today? Explain.
- Do you agree that addiction is a worship issue? Why or why not?
- Have you believed that you’re in this battle alone? That your addictions are a personal issue? How can you begin to fight with others rather than shadow boxing alone?
- Does—or could—alcohol enslave you? Is alcohol an idol in your life? Could your drinking cause spiritual damage to others or lead them into sin?
- Have you escaped enslavement in a certain area? How? What did that look like for you?

## CHAPTER 8

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- Could you relate to the account of the Icelandic volcano eruption? How do you typically react to spiking emotions and mounting pressures? Would you like to respond differently? How?
- What is at the root of our out-of-control behavior?
- What motivates you the most to pursue self-control?
- Do you agree that if we don't master self-control we will struggle with every other virtue and spiritual discipline? Why or why not?
- We can't lead others where we've not been ourselves. Are you a model of self-control? How could you use your personal experience, and what you have learned about developing a sophron mindset and lifestyle to help the younger women in your life cultivate greater self-control?
- Does becoming a self-controlled woman sound boring to you, or is it something you aspire to?

## CHAPTER 9

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- How do you think our raunch culture has affected your thoughts about and attitude toward purity?
- To whom do you tend to compare your standard of purity? God or others?
- “Christian women who have pure hearts and lives become a walking advertisement for the truth and power of the gospel.” Have you ever seen this lived out? If so, how?
- If you are in Christ, you have been declared “positionally pure.” Does this mean that you can sit back and take it easy when it comes to purity? Why or why not?
- “But among you there must not be even a hint of sexual immorality, or of any kind of impurity” (Eph. 5:3 niv). What are examples of ways we can hint at sexual immorality?
- What are some benefits of pursuing purity?
- How does this idea of personal hedges sound to you: like a hard burden or a means of grace? Do you have any hedges? If so, what are they?
- Which of the hedges mentioned in this chapter do you most need to implement in your life?

## CHAPTER 10

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- What do you think of when you think of “home”?
- What about being domestic is appealing or unappealing to you?
- Do you think you can be a godly woman while overlooking your home? Why or why not?
- How can tending well to your home point others to spiritual realities?
- What can you do today to develop more of a heart for home?
- Are there any changes you need to make in the way you prioritize your life and home?
- What does Paul not mean when he instructs women to be “keepers at home”?
- How does God embody homemaking?

## CHAPTER 11

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- Do you believe that women need to be trained how to love their husbands? Why or why not?
- Share about a godly married couple you’ve admired. What have you learned as you’ve observed their loyalty, friendship, and love?
- What in this chapter inspired you most?
- Do you agree that a wife can learn to love her husband no matter how he acts, what he says, or what he does? Why or why not?
- What is a wife’s job in marriage, and what is God’s job?
- What marriage wisdom do you have to pass on to another wife?
- In what specific area are you “editing” your husband? Would you be willing to take the 30-Day Husband Encouragement Challenge instead and see how it goes?
- Describe ways that a woman can tear down her house. Share examples of how a woman can build up her home instead. Pray for one another in this area.

## CHAPTER 12

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- What misconceptions about submission did you have before reading this chapter? How has your thinking changed?
- Which of the eight misconceptions listed was the most helpful to you? How would you explain submission to a friend who is struggling to understand the blessing of it?
- How can the principle of submission apply to all of us in one way or another? Share with the group how practicing biblical submission will help in a particular relationship in your life.
- If you are married, when your husband gives input or direction, are you inclined to follow it? Explain your answer.
- How does the powerful testimony of how Christ submitted Himself to the will of His Father, even when it required suffering (1 Peter 2:21–25) encourage your heart today?
- What hope does 1 Peter 3:1–4 give to women married to an unbelieving spouse or to a husband who is not being obedient to the Word of God?
- Discuss your response to this quote: “The hard-fought, God-honoring response of a submitted wife can be a means of drawing the most resistant husband to submit to God. This kind of submission is a mark not of groveling, but of greatness.”
- Nancy shared five general principles to follow when facing a situation that asks you to submit to direction that you believe is unwise or unbiblical. Choose one of the five principles, and share what new insights you learned and plan to apply.

## CHAPTER 13

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- Who or what informs your underlying beliefs on parenthood?
- If you are a mom, do you relate to Kari, who felt that God, her husband, and her kids had taken advantage of her?
- Do you feel a pull to compete with other moms? If so, what positive steps can you take today to guard against competition?
- Do you lean more toward prioritizing your kids too much or too little?
- Whether you have kids of your own or not, are children a priority for you, as they were for Jesus when He was here on earth? Explain.



- How are you intentionally transmitting the gospel—day by day, year by year, experience by experience—to the little ones you’ve been privileged to raise or privileged to nurture? If you don’t know how to do this, what woman can you reach out to for help?
- What did you learn about Eve or Perez in this chapter that encouraged your heart?
- What does it look like for a mother to be utterly dependant upon God? How would you like to grow as a mother, grandmother, or spiritual mother this year?

## CHAPTER 14

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- Why do you think Paul included an admonition about being “kind” right in the middle of his core curriculum for women in the church?
- What does kindness flow out of? What should your kindness turn into?
- Do you believe that kindness is every bit as important as such things as being pure and avoiding slander? Why or why not?
- How will you be remembered by your family, your closest friends, and others who knew you? Will they remember only what you did, or will there be a lingering fragrance because of how you did it? Will they remember both the sacrifices you made and the smile they could always count on to warm their day?
- Are you kinder to neighbors, colleagues, store clerks, or complete strangers than you are to those who live under the same roof with you or who are related to you by blood or marriage? If so, what does this say about your kindness?
- Who does God tell us to especially do good to? Why do you think that is?
- Kindness is not just passive; it is proactive. How can you specifically minister grace to others today through asking sincere questions, expressing interest in the happenings in their lives, or offering practical assistance for a need they’re facing? Come up with a game plan, and go do good!
- Who are your enemies? Think about who annoys you or resents you, who often hurts or angers you, who you tend to approach warily if at all. What might it look like if your response toward these people reflected the blessing Christ poured out on you when you were still His enemy?