

Women and Mothers

S.R. Isa. 66:12 – 14

5 – 14 – 2023

A. Does your mom work?

B. Does your wife work? (Titus 2:4 – 5)

Intro. True Women Manifesto - via Revive our Hearts – Edited by AY

A personal and corporate declaration of belief, consecration, and prayerful intent—to the end that Christ may be exalted and the glory and redeeming love of God may be displayed throughout the whole earth.

WE BELIEVE that God is the Lord of the universe and the Creator of life, and that all created things exist for His pleasure and to bring Him glory.¹

1 Cor. 8:6; Col. 1:16; Rev. 4:11

WE BELIEVE that the creation of humanity as male and female was a purposeful and magnificent part of God’s wise plan, and that men and women were designed to reflect the image of God in complementary and distinct ways.²

(Gen. 1:26 – 27; 2:18; 1 Cor. 11:8 – 9)

WE BELIEVE (revised (AY) that our sins separate us from God. Our only hope for restoration and salvation is found in repenting of our sins and obeying Christ who lived a sinless life, died for our sins, and was raised from the dead. (1 Cor. 15:1 – 4)

WE REALIZE that we live in a culture that does not recognize God’s right to rule, does not accept Scripture as the pattern for life, and is experiencing the consequences of abandoning God’s design for men and women. (Romans 3:22 - 24; Prov. 14:12)

WE BELIEVE that Christ is redeeming this sinful world and making all things new, and that His followers are called to share in His redemptive purposes as we seek, by God’s empowerment, to transform every aspect of human life that has been marred by sin. (Eph. 4:20 – 24; Col. 3:12 – 14)

TO THAT END, WE AFFIRM THAT...

SCRIPTURE is God’s authoritative means of instructing us in His ways and it reveals His holy pattern for our womanhood, our character, our priorities, and our various roles, responsibilities, and relationships. (John 17:17; 2 Peter 1:20 – 21)

WE GLORIFY GOD and experience His blessing when we accept and joyfully embrace His created design, function, and order for our lives. (Titus 2:3 – 5; 1 Peter 3:3 – 6)

MEN AND WOMEN are both created in the image of God and are equal in value and dignity, but they have distinct roles and functions in the home and in the church. (Gal. 3:26 – 28; Eph. 5:22 – 33)

WE ARE CALLED as women to affirm and encourage men as they seek to express godly masculinity, and to honor and support God-ordained male leadership in the home and in the church. (1 Peter 5:1 – 4; Mark 9:35; 10:42 – 45; 1 Cor. 15:34; 1 Tim. 2:12 – 3:7)

MARRIAGE, as created by God, is a sacred, binding, lifelong covenant between one man and one woman. (Mark 10:7 – 9)

WHEN WE RESPOND humbly and appropriately to male leadership in our homes and churches, we demonstrate a noble submission that honors God's Word and reflects Christ's obedience to the will of His Father. (Eph. 5:22 – 33)

SELFISH INSISTENCE on personal rights is contrary to the spirit of Christ who humbled Himself, took on the form of a servant, and laid down His life for us. (Ph'p. 2:5 – 8)

HUMAN LIFE is precious to God and is to be valued and protected, from the point of conception until rightful death. (Psalm 139:13 – 16)

CHILDREN are a blessing from God; women are uniquely designed to be bearers and nurturers of life, whether it be their own biological or adopted children, or other children in their sphere of influence. (Psalm 127)

GOD'S PLAN for gender is wider than marriage; all women, whether married or single, are to model femininity in their various relationships, by exhibiting a distinctive modesty, responsiveness, and gentleness of spirit. (1 Tim. 2:9 – 13) reflecting holiness in the fear of God

CHRIST SUFFERED FOR US, to bring us to God; at times believers will be called to suffer loss for His sake and for the sake of the gospel—looking to heavenly reward rather than earthly comfort or gain. (1 Peter 2:21 – 23)

MATURE CHRISTIAN WOMEN have a responsibility to leave a legacy of faith, by discipling younger women in the Word and ways of God and modeling for the next generation lives of fruitful femininity. (Titus 2:3 – 5)

BELIEVING THE ABOVE, we declare our desire and intent to be “true women” of God. We consecrate ourselves to fulfill His calling and purposes for our lives. By His grace and in humble dependence on His power, we will:

1. Seek to love the Lord our God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. Mark 12:29 - 30
2. Gladly yield control of our lives to Christ as Lord—we will say “Yes, Lord” to the Word and the will of God. Eph. 5:15 - 17
3. Be women of the Word, seeking to grow in our knowledge of Scripture and to live in accord with sound doctrine in every area of our lives. Titus 2:1 - 7
4. Nurture our fellowship and communion with God through reading Scripture, prayer—in praise, thanksgiving, confession, intercession, and supplication.
5. Embrace and express our unique design and calling as women with humility, gratitude, faith, and joy.
6. Seek to glorify God by cultivating such virtues as purity, modesty, submission, meekness, and love.
7. Show proper respect to both men and women, created in the image of God, esteeming others as better than ourselves, seeking to build them up, and putting off bitterness, anger, and evil speaking.
8. Be faithfully engaged in our local church, submitting ourselves to our spiritual leaders, growing in the context of the community of faith, and using the gifts He has given us to serve others, to build up the Body of Christ, and to fulfill His redemptive purposes in the world.
9. Seek to establish homes that manifest the love, grace, beauty, and order of God, that provide a climate conducive to nurturing life, and that extend Christian hospitality to those outside the walls of our homes.
10. Honor the sacredness, purity, and permanence of the marriage covenant—whether ours or others’.
11. Receive children as a blessing from the Lord, seeking to train them to love and follow Christ and to consecrate their lives for the sake of His gospel and Kingdom. (Psalm 127:3)
12. Live out the mandate of Titus 2—as older women, modeling godliness and training younger women to be pleasing to God in every respect; as younger women, receiving instruction with meekness and humility and aspiring to become mature women of God who in turn will train the next generation.
13. Seek opportunities to share the gospel of Christ with unbelievers.
14. Reflect God’s heart for orphans, widows, and others who are vulnerable, marginalized, or oppressed, by extending kindness, ministering to their needs in the name of Christ, and promoting justice for all people as bearers of God’s image. (James 1:27)