

Women are searching today as never before for fulfillment and purpose in life. Traditional roles and functions are being questioned. Many answers are being given. Where is a woman to find true worth, fulfillment, and happiness in life?

As a Governor's daughter, I grew up in a wealthy and prestigious family. During high school and college I had many honors and earthly possessions. Later I was a public school teacher. I married a professional football player and had three children. Yet it was not in these experiences that my deepest needs were met.

What are a woman's deepest needs and how are they to be met? Since God created the woman, He knows her deepest needs and He alone can meet them.

A Woman needs **love**. God alone can provide unconditional, self-sacrificial love. A love that has her highest good in view. The Bible tells us: "Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." (1 John 4:10).

A woman needs security. Often a woman's security is based on financial stability, her husband, or her own success in the world. All these things can change. God never changes. "Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and to day, and for ever." (Hebrews 13:8). He alone can

give true stability and security.

A woman needs peace. In a world full of changes, pressures, and problems, where can a woman find inner peace? Only Jesus Christ can provide inner peace regardless of outward circumstances. Through Him we can have peace with God. "Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." (John 14:27).

A woman needs purpose. God did not make one mold for all women. He has a unique plan, full of meaning and purpose for each of us—a purpose in life suited to our own special gender, gifts, and abilities, in the sphere of His will and according to His Word. "In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths." (Proverbs 3:6).

A woman needs **self-worth.** The world attributes worth to beauty, intelligence, talent, or position in life. The Bible says "...man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." (1 Samuel 16:7). Our worth in His eyes is based on the character of our life and the qualities that He develops as we commit our life to Him.

All the needs a woman has cannot truly be met, in the deepest sense, unless her greatest need is met, and that is:

A Right Relationship with God

The Bible says because of Adam's sin in the garden, that a right relationship

with God was broken. Thus, we are all born sinners. "In sin did my mother conceive me" (Psalm 51:5). "All have sinned, and come short of the glory of God." "The wages of sin is death" (Romans 3:23; 6:23).

Because God is holy, He cannot have a relationship with sinful men and women. "Who is able to stand before this holy LORD God?" (1 Samuel 6:20). For in His sight no man living is righteous (Romans 3:20).

Many think a right relationship with God comes by trying to please Him, by doing good things for others, by going to church, or just believing that He lived. The Bible says, "Whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one point, he is guilty of all" (James 2:10). The Bible also says that all our good works are as filthy rags to Him (Isaiah 64:6). No one can be good enough to please God. His standard is perfection. The only One good enough to please God was Jesus Christ. He came to earth and perfectly kept God's law; then, as a perfect substitute, He paid the price sinners owed God for their sin (1 Peter 3:18).

Maybe you've heard these things all your life, and perhaps you believe them to be true. But, hearing these things and believing they are true does not give you a right relationship with God.

You must first recognize your

sin and *confess* to Him that you are a sinner: separated from Him and destined for hell (Luke 18:13).

Second, you must *repent* from your sins (Acts 17:30), that is hate and forsake them because they are displeasing to God.

Third, you must *realize* Christ alone was able by His death to satisfy God's justice and appease His wrath. Through Him only can you be forgiven and saved from your sin (1 Timothy 2:5-6).

Fourth, you must *receive* Christ as He is the Lord Jesus Christ. Believe in Him from the heart to save you from your sins and commit yourself to Him as your Lord to follow all the days of your life (Romans 10:13).

Although I had a world of wealth and security, it was not until I committed my life to Jesus Christ that the deepest needs of my heart were met. In Him alone and in His will for my life is my true happiness.

If you will repent of your sin and entrust your life to Christ, you will know true forgiveness, peace with God, and eternal life (John 3:16).

How Can You Know You Are a True Christian?

Slowly but surely there will be changes in your life because the Bible says that when one is in Christ he is a new creature (1 Corinthians 5:17). You will begin to love God and His Word. You will love His people and His church. You will have a heart and desire for communion with Him

in prayer. You will begin to hate sin and desire to please Him (1 John 2:3-4).

You can know that your greatest need is met if you have truly trusted Christ from the heart. As you grow in His grace and knowledge, He will meet all the other needs of your life (Matthew 6:33). He will never leave you or forsake you (Hebrews 13:5). In Him you will find the living water, and you will never thirst again (John 4:14). Heaven will be your eternal home (John 14:2-3). RMH



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