

## based on “The Ultimate Meaning of True Womanhood” by Pastor John Piper

1. According to Pastor Piper, what is God’s ultimate purpose for all of history?  
What is the ultimate meaning—or purpose—of true womanhood?

“The display of the glory of Jesus in dying for His bride.”

2. How do we know—from Scripture—that womanhood wasn’t an after-thought of creation or the cross?

Manhood and womanhood belong at the center of God’s ultimate purpose. In Ephesians 5:31, Paul quotes Genesis 2:24: “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. This mystery is profound, and I am saying it refers to Christ and the church” (emphasis added). True womanhood is a distinctive calling of God to display the glory of His Son in ways that would not be displayed if there were no womanhood. Our maleness and femaleness display more fully the glory of His Son in relationship to His blood-bought bride.

3. If marriage was created to display the glory of Christ in relationship to His blood-bought bride, why, then, is it not an assault on God’s glory for Paul to lure people out of pursuing marriage?

In this world there are truths about Christ and His kingdom that can be more clearly displayed by womanhood and manhood in singleness. Single womanhood has ways to magnify Christ that married womanhood cannot, just as married womanhood has ways to magnify Christ that single womanhood cannot.

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**4. In what ways can a single woman display Christ’s glory that a married woman cannot?**

The family of God grows by regeneration through faith, not propagation through sexual intercourse. Relationships in Christ are more permanent and more precious than relationships in families. Marriage is temporary and finally gives way in the end to the relationship to which it was pointing all along—Christ and the Church—the way a picture is no longer needed when you’re face to face.

**5. In what ways can a married woman display Christ’s glory that a single woman cannot?**

Marriage displays the covenant-keeping love and grace that exists between Christ and His Church. Men take their cues from Christ and are called to take primary responsibility for Christ-like servant leadership, protection, and provision in the home. Women take their cues from the Church (called to admire and stand in allegiance to Christ) and are called to honor and affirm their husband’s leadership and help carry it through according to their gifts.

**6. Piper claims that wimpy theology makes wimpy women. How have you seen this to be true in your life or the lives of women around you?**

**7. How does this teaching—that your womanhood is incredibly purposeful and puts Christ’s glory on display—affect you? How does it change the way you’ll live your life tomorrow? ☩**