

LadyLike: Living Biblically

You will see that the questions this study poses do not offer the answers. They are designed so that you land in the right zone without being pushed there. There are plenty of wrong answers that the devil, the world, and your flesh would put forward, but there are also a lot of right answers, depending upon your station and situation. Move forward with a firmer eye on Scripture than any other word out there, and you'll be set!

Each week a number of questions will be posted online in this format along with the readings for the week. Since this book is written as short essays, you will be reading or referring to some essays multiple times throughout this study. You may participate in online discussions if you would like on the Immanuel Women's Ministry Facebook Group. You can also email me your questions or thoughts at pmiller@immanuelseymour.com. Blessings on your study.

Week One

Prayer:

Dear Father, You are the giver of all good things. Thank you for this opportunity to read and study *LadyLike: Living Biblically*. May the time spent in reading and pondering Your truths in this book and Your Holy Word be a time of renewal and learning. Send your Holy Spirit to guide us in Your wisdom and understanding. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

Reading and Questions:

Reading: Forward, Introduction, and the essay on page 14; see also pages 18, 44, 72, 103, 121, 138, and 152.

Have your Bible close by so that you may refer to the indicated sections of Scripture within each essay.

Questions:

1. Hierarchy is not an ordering based on merit. Consider the game of chess: the king is the principal piece, but there are specialists who are needed for the game to make sense. If everyone were a king, it wouldn't work. Scripture teaches us that there is an order to this life, and that order is good.
—Have you ever resented the order established by God?
—Have you envied the headship of man?
—How have you seen the order function well?

Reading: Revisit the essay on page 14; see also pages 18, 21, 27, 38, 44, 56, 61, 66, 72, 103, 121, 138, and 152.

Questions:

2. Ephesians 5:22–23 says, “Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, His body, and is Himself its Savior.” The world would tell us that if there is submission it should go both ways. Dr. Thomas Winger writes, “mutual submission is no submission at all” (*Concordia Commentary: Ephesians* (St.

Louis: Concordia Publishing House, 2015, p. 602). Parents don't submit to children, masters don't submit to slaves, generals don't submit to sergeants, and supervisors don't submit to supervisees. Those in authority are called to treat those under them well, but they are not called to submit. These ordered relationships aren't designed to run in reverse.

—How is mutual submission actually impossible?

—What is the godly attitude and action when it comes to wifely submission, either as a personal reality or a Christian concept?

Other prayers to consider as you begin or end your reading and study time:

The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

Luther's Morning Prayer:

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Luther's Evening Prayer:

I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.