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 <u>pmiller@immanuelseymour.com</u>. Blessings on your study.

Week Five

Prayer:

Lord God, Heavenly Father, we thank you for the gift of family. May our love for one another always be rooted in the greatest love which we find in Christ Jesus. We ask for a full measure of the Holy Spirit's wisdom to direct us in all we think, say and do. Give us physical, mental and spiritual health so that we are useful for the work you have prepared for us in Your Kingdom. Lord, bless us and be present in our homes always. Amen.

Reading and Questions:

Reading: Read the essay on page 76; see also pages 80, 89, 100, 106, 111, 128, and 194.

Questions: Which comes first, our family or God's family? That's a historical question! The family of God is the true family, and human families learn what they should look like based on how God's family looks. The family of God has a Father, an only-begotten Son and Bridegroom (Jesus), a Bride and mother (the Church), and many adopted children.

—When our own families don't look like the family of God, should that drive us to despair?

—What do we learn from the families we see in the Old and New Testaments?

-How does God comfort us when our earthly relationships and families break?

Reading: Read the essays on pages 85 and 103; see also pages 44, 72, and 76.

Questions: A lot of people think it's fun to laugh at husbands or dads as clueless dolts. Some even think that a father is something we're free to take or leave on behalf of another human being.

—How is marriage a gift for everyone, not only for husbands and wives?

—Given that this is true, how should we speak of wives and husbands?

—How can we build up marriage even as others tear it down through gripes, venting, and jokes?

—Is there something you personally can do to help someone who is struggling in marriage or a situation relating to marriage?

Questions: Write a list of motherly characteristics. If you are a mom, you can be a good one without a lot of check marks on that list. If you are not a mom, you can infuse the goodness of motherhood in all that you do. Females are programmed for motherhood by design, not accident. That means that being maternal is not part of a woman's personality, but part of her person. —Does every good mother you know meet all the items on your list?

—How is that list helpful and/or unhelpful?

—How is the maternal aspect of women shown in the lives of all women, even women who are not mothers themselves?

Prayers:

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.