



by Cindy Melius

*Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit,  
but with humility of mind regard one another  
as more important than yourselves;  
do not merely look out for  
your own personal interests,  
but also for the interests of others.  
~ Philippians 2:3-4*

## Introduction:

- I. We were created to be a part of something.
- II. So—what does this mean for us as single women?
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## Body:

### I. Helping other single women

A. Bad examples:

B. Good examples:

### II. Helping married women



### III. Helping men

A. Study Proverbs, contrasting the “strange woman” with the virtuous woman of Proverbs 31.

B. Be \_\_\_\_\_ but wise.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ with kindness

*. . . The teaching of kindness is on her tongue.*

~ Proverbs 31:26b

2. \_\_\_\_\_ with wisdom

*The prudent sees the evil and hides himself,  
But the naive go on, and are punished for it.*

~ Proverbs 22:3



## IV. Authority in the church: How can we help them?

### A. Scriptural principles:

#### 1. Hebrews 13:7:

*Remember those who led you, who spoke the word of God to you; and considering the result of their conduct, imitate their faith.*

#### 2. Hebrews 13:17:

*Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they keep watch over your souls as those who will give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with grief, for this would be unprofitable for you.*



## B. Jesus' example:

### 1. Philippians 2:1-8

Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men. Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.



## 2. I Peter 2:21-25

*For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH; and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously; and He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, so that we might die to sin and live to righteousness; for by His wounds you were healed. For you were continually straying like sheep, but now you have returned to the Shepherd and Guardian of your souls.*



C. A warning: Numbers 12

D. Do we ever have a right to appeal to authority?

1. Daniel (Daniel 1)
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (I Samuel 25)
3. Hudson Taylor and Maria Dyer

I have been in much sorrow of late; but the principal cause I find to be want of willing submission to, and trustful repose in God, my Strength. Oh, to desire His will to be done with my whole heart . . . to seek His will to be done with my whole heart . . . To seek His glory with a single eye! Oh, to realize more of the fullness of our precious Jesus, . . . To live more in the light of His countenance; to be satisfied with what He bestows, ever looking to Him, following in His footsteps and waiting His glorious coming. Why do we love Him so little? It is not that He does not love us . . . That was forever proved on Calvary. Oh, to be sick of love for Jesus, to be daily, hourly longing, hungering, thirsting for His presence! . . . May you find your love to Him ever increasing, and His likeness in you be apparent to all . . . Continue to pray for me . . . that God will supply all my need, Jesus be all my delight, His service all my desire, rest with Him all my hope.

~ Hudson Taylor

## Sources Consulted:

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Taylor, Dr. & Mrs. Howard. *Hudson Taylor in Early Years: The Growth of a Soul. P.426*

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