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The Fully Alive Woman

Mother's Day, May 11, 2025

What does it mean to be fully alive female for the glory of God?

The fully alive woman...

...reflecting the relational beauty of the Triune God Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "<u>Let us</u> make man <u>in our image</u>, in our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the air, over the livestock, over all the earth, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." ²⁷ So God created man <u>in his own image</u>, <u>in the image of God he created him</u>; male and female <u>he created them</u>.

"When we know God well enough to value nothing greater than our opportunity to enjoy Him and reveal Him to others by the way we relate, we will then become more and more alive as masculine men and feminine women." -Larry Crabb

...feminine beauty

I Peter 3:3-5 Don't be concerned about the outward beauty of fancy hairstyles, expensive jewelry, or beautiful clothes. You should clothe yourselves instead with the beauty that comes from within, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is so precious to God. This is how the holy women of old made themselves beautiful.

"Gentle" spirit =

- Relies on her inner strength to determine her actions, not her emotions that are triggered by how others treat her
- Knows her husband has no power to destroy her beautiful soul, her feminine center.
 - Does not live in fear of her husband's rejection. Fear no longer requires her to protect her soul.
- Is free to honor a higher good, to respect her husband as a fellow image-bearer, and to invite him by her gentle attitude to be the man he was created to be.

Quiet spirit

- Has no controlling urge to "get even" with someone.
- Has a ruling passion to <u>invite</u> the best from others by <u>offering her best</u> to others.
- She trusts that God is her real Lord and is working redemptively in her life.
- She is learning to have peace even in a crisis. That peace is life-giving to her and is meant to be radiated to those around her.

...reflecting the invitational love of Jesus...

Matt. 11:28 Come to me all of you who labor and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.

...relational femininity--illustrated

Genesis 1:26-27 NLT Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, to be like us" So God created human beings in his own image. In the image of God, he created them; male ("zakar") and <u>female</u> ("<u>neqebah</u>") he created them.

"Neqebah"

A woman is open, not closed, to relationally receive people. She warmly and enjoyable embraces those whom she receives. She invites movement toward her and receives relational movement.

...relational feminine design illustrated

Genesis 2:20 The man gave names to all livestock and to the birds of the heavens and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a <u>helper</u> (<u>Ezer</u>) <u>fit</u> (<u>Kenegdo</u>) for him

"Ezer" = "helper"

"Kenegdo" = "fit" or "suitable"