

***What to Do When
She Wears the Pants
and He Won't***

What to Do When Life Isn't Perfect

Message #2: Genesis 12-22

Emmanuel Baptist Church

April 30, 2017

***"The heart of Mature
Masculinity is a sense of
benevolent responsibility to
lead, provide for and protect
women in ways appropriate to
a man's differing
relationships."* [John Piper]**

"The heart of Mature Femininity is a freeing disposition or an inclination. It's a mindset. It's a freeing mindset to affirm, receive and nurture strength and leadership from worthy men in ways appropriate to a woman's differing relationships." [John Piper]

1 Peter 3:1–7 (HCSB) - *In the same way, wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands so that, even if some disobey the Christian message, they may be won*

***over without a message by
the way their wives live
2when they observe your
pure, reverent lives. 3Your
beauty should not consist of
outward things like***

elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold ornaments or fine clothes. ⁴Instead, it should consist of what is inside the heart with the imperishable quality of a

*gentle and quiet spirit,
which is very valuable in
God's eyes. ⁵For in the past,
the holy women who put
their hope in God also
beautified themselves in*

this way, submitting to their own husbands, ⁶just as Sarah obeyed Abraham, calling him lord. You have become her children when you do what is good and are

***not frightened by anything
alarming.***

***⁷Husbands, in the same way,
live with your wives with an
understanding of their***

***weaker nature yet showing
them honor as coheirs of
the grace of life, so that
your prayers will not be
hindered.***

**1. Abram – a man
with issues**

- **Issue #1: Intimidation
(Fear)**

Genesis 12:1–3, 7 (HCSB) -
The LORD said to Abram: Go out from your land, your relatives, and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ²I will make you

***into a great nation, I will
bless you, I will make your
name great, and you will be
a blessing. ³I will bless
those who bless you, I will
curse those who treat you***

with contempt, and all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you. ...

⁷Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “I will give

this land to your offspring.”
So he built an altar there to
the LORD who had appeared
to him.

Genesis 12:10–20 (HCSB) -
There was a famine in the land, so Abram went down to Egypt to live there for a while because the famine in the land was severe. ¹¹When

*he was about to enter Egypt,
he said to his wife Sarai,
“Look, I know what a
beautiful woman you are.
¹²When the Egyptians see
you, they will say, ‘This is*

***his wife.’ They will kill me
but let you live. ¹³Please say
you’re my sister so it will go
well for me because of you,
and my life will be spared on
your account.” ¹⁴When***

***Abram entered Egypt, the Egyptians saw that the woman was very beautiful.
15 Pharaoh's officials saw her and praised her to Pharaoh, so the woman was taken to***

Pharaoh's household. ¹⁶He treated Abram well because of her, and Abram acquired flocks and herds, male and female donkeys, male and female slaves, and camels.

17 But the LORD struck Pharaoh and his household with severe plagues because of Abram's wife Sarai. 18 So Pharaoh sent for Abram and said, "What have

*you done to me? Why didn't
you tell me she was your
wife? ¹⁹Why did you say,
'She's my sister,' so that I
took her as my wife? Now,
here is your wife. Take her*

and go!”

20 Then Pharaoh gave his men orders about him, and they sent him away with his wife and all he had.

Genesis 20:10–13 (HCSB) –

Abimelech also said to Abraham, “What did you intend when you did this thing?”

¹¹Abraham replied, “I

thought, 'There is absolutely no fear of God in this place. They will kill me because of my wife.' ¹²***Besides, she really is my sister, the daughter of my father***

though not the daughter of my mother, and she became my wife. ¹³So when God had me wander from my father's house, I said to her: 'Show your loyalty to me wherever

we go and say about me:

“He’s my brother.”””

Proverbs 29:25 (HCSB) - *The fear of man is a snare, but the one who trusts in the LORD is protected.*

• Issue #2: Selfishness

Genesis 12:13 (HCSB) –

***“Please say you’re my sister
so it will go well for me
because of you, and my life
will be spared on your
account.”***

**Genesis 20:13 (HCSB) – “I
said to her: ‘Show your
loyalty to me wherever we
go and say about me: “He’s
my brother.”””**

• Issue #3: Lack of Faith

Genesis 20:11 (HCSB) -

*Abraham replied, “I thought,
‘There is absolutely no fear
of God in this place.’”*

2. Sarai – one unhappy woman

Genesis 13:16–17 (HCSB) –

“I will make your offspring like the dust of the earth, so that if anyone could count the dust of the earth, then your offspring could be

counted. ¹⁷Get up and walk around the land, through its length and width, for I will give it to you.”

Genesis 15:3–6 (HCSB) -

Abram continued, “Look, You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house will be my heir.”

⁴Now the word of the LORD

came to him: “This one will not be your heir; instead, one who comes from your own body will be your heir.”

⁵He took him outside and said, “Look at the sky and

***count the stars, if you are
able to count them.” Then
He said to him, “Your
offspring will be that
numerous.”***

***⁶Abram believed the LORD,
and He credited it to him as
righteousness.***

#1: *“I feel unloved.”*

#1: *“I feel unloved.”*

#2: *“I feel unprotected.”*

#1: *“I feel unloved.”*

#2: *“I feel unprotected.”*

#3: *“I feel unneeded.”*

Genesis 16:1–6 (HCSB) -

Abram's wife Sarai had not borne any children for him, but she owned an Egyptian slave named Hagar. ²Sarai said to Abram, "Since the

LORD has prevented me from bearing children, go to my slave; perhaps through her I can build a family.”

And Abram agreed to what Sarai said.

³So Abram's wife Sarai took Hagar, her Egyptian slave, and gave her to her husband Abram as a wife for him. This happened after Abram had lived in the land

of Canaan 10 years. ⁴He slept with Hagar, and she became pregnant. When she realized that she was pregnant, she treated her mistress with contempt.

***⁵Then Sarai said to Abram,
“You are responsible for my
suffering! I put my slave in
your arms, and ever since
she saw that she was
pregnant, she has treated***

me with contempt. May the LORD judge between me and you.”

*⁶Abram replied to Sarai,
“Here, your slave is in your hands; do whatever you*

want with her.” Then Sarai mistreated her so much that she ran away from her.

Genesis 3:16 (HCSB) - *He said to the woman: “ ... Your desire will be for (Hebrew: אֶל [“e/”] = for, toward, in the direction of, against) your husband, yet he will rule over you.”*

The Principle at Work:

One of the consequences of the fall is that a woman will be naturally inclined to want to step into the role God has ordained for the husband, especially when he does not step up to the plate & fulfill it!

**3. Life can begin
at 99!**

- **Abram finds His strength & manhood in God:**

Genesis 17:3–8 (HCSB) -

*Then Abram fell facedown
and God spoke with him:*

*⁴“As for Me, My covenant is
with you: you will become
the father of many nations.*

⁵Your name will no longer be Abram, but your name will be Abraham, for I will make you the father of many nations. ⁶I will make you extremely fruitful and will

***make nations and kings
come from you. ⁷I will keep
My covenant between Me
and you, and your future
offspring throughout their
generations, as an***

***everlasting covenant to be
your God and the God of
your offspring after you.***

***⁸And to you and your future
offspring I will give the land
where you are residing—all***

the land of Canaan—as an eternal possession, and I will be their God.”

- **Sarai finds her significance in God:**

Genesis 17:15–22 (HCSB) -
God said to Abraham, “As for your wife Sarai, do not call her Sarai, for Sarah will be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her; indeed, I will give you a

***son by her. I will bless her,
and she will produce
nations; kings of peoples
will come from her.”***

¹⁷Abraham fell facedown.

*Then he laughed and said to himself, “Can a child be born to a hundred-year-old man? Can Sarah, a ninety-year-old woman, give birth?”*¹⁸ *So Abraham said*

*to God, “If only Ishmael
were acceptable to You!”*

*¹⁹But God said, “No. Your
wife Sarah will bear you a
son, and you will name him
Isaac. I will confirm My*

covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his future offspring. ²⁰As for Ishmael, I have heard you. I will certainly bless him; I will make him fruitful and

will multiply him greatly. He will father 12 tribal leaders, and I will make him into a great nation. ²¹But I will confirm My covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear

to you at this time next year.”²² When He finished talking with him, God withdrew from Abraham.

1 Peter 3:7 (HCSB) -

Husbands, in the same way, live with your wives with an understanding of their weaker nature yet showing

***them honor as coheirs of
the grace of life, so that
your prayers will not be
hindered.***

**4. So who's the
boss?**

Genesis 18:1–15 (HCSB) -

Then the LORD appeared to Abraham at the oaks of Mamre while he was sitting in the entrance of his tent during the heat of the day.

²He looked up, and he saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the entrance of the tent to meet them and bowed to the ground. ³Then

he said, “My lord, if I have found favor in your sight, please do not go on past your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, that you may wash your feet and rest

*yourselfes under the tree. ⁵I
will bring a bit of bread so
that you may strengthen
yourselfes. This is why you
have passed your servant's*

way. Later, you can continue on.”

“Yes,” they replied, “do as you have said.”

⁶So Abraham hurried into the tent and said to Sarah,

“Quick! Knead three measures of fine flour and make bread.”⁷ Meanwhile, Abraham ran to the herd and got a tender, choice calf. He gave it to a young

man, who hurried to prepare it. ⁸Then Abraham took curds and milk, and the calf that he had prepared, and set them before the men. He served them as they ate

under the tree.

⁹“Where is your wife Sarah?” they asked him.

“There, in the tent,” he answered.

¹⁰The LORD said, “I will certainly come back to you in about a year’s time, and your wife Sarah will have a son!” Now Sarah was listening at the entrance of

the tent behind him.

¹¹Abraham and Sarah were old and getting on in years. Sarah had passed the age of childbearing. ¹²So she laughed to herself: “After I

*have become shriveled up
and my lord is old, will I
have delight?”*

*¹³But the LORD asked
Abraham, “Why did Sarah
laugh, saying, ‘Can I really*

have a baby when I'm old?'
¹⁴Is anything impossible for
the LORD? At the appointed
time I will come back to you,
and in about a year she will
have a son.'"

15 Sarah denied it. “I did not laugh,” she said, because she was afraid.

But He replied, “No, you did laugh.”

1 Peter 3:1, 5-6 (HCSB) - *In the same way, wives, submit yourselves to your own husbands. ... ⁵For in the past, the holy women who put their hope in God also*

***beautified themselves in
this way, submitting to their
own husbands, ⁶just as
Sarah obeyed Abraham,
calling him lord.***

Genesis 21:6–7 (HCSB) -

Sarah said, “God has made me laugh, and everyone who hears will laugh with me.”⁷ She also said, “Who would have told Abraham

that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne a son for him in his old age.”

Genesis 22:12–14 (HCSB) -
Then He said, “Do not lay a hand on the boy or do anything to him. For now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld

your only son from Me.”

¹³Abraham looked up and saw a ram caught in the thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram and offered it as a burnt

offering in place of his son.
¹⁴And Abraham named that place The LORD Will Provide, so today it is said: “It will be provided on the LORD’s mountain.”