Who can find a virtuous woman?
for her price is far above rubies.
- Proverbs 31:10

THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN

Ages 5-6

The Missionary Baptist
Vacation Bible School Literature Committee presents

THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN

Vacation Bible School Lessons for Ages 5-6
Written by Sister Tangi Wheet

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THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN - LESSON 1

FAITH

The Woman with the Issue of Blood

Proverbs 31:21 "She is not afraid of the snow for her household: for all her household are clothed with scarlet."

Did you know that not only does the Bible tell us about Jesus and his love for us, but it also tells us how to be good people?

This week we are going to talk about The Virtuous Woman who is found in Proverbs 31.

King Lemuel's mother taught him about the kind of woman that he should marry. She told him that a virtuous woman is worth more than rubies. A ruby is a beautiful jewel that is hard to find, so it is very valuable.

What is a virtuous a woman? The dictionary says that virtuous means being morally excellent. Basically, it means being a really good person with a really good heart. The Virtuous Woman in Proverbs 31 loves God, loves her husband and her children, and she takes care of her household.

Our memory verse shows us that the Virtuous Woman has faith and that God will take care of her and her loved ones. The Bible says that "faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." (Hebrews 11:1) In other words, faith means believing in something that we can't see. We can't see God, but we know that He is in Heaven and that He loves us and will take care of us.

To understand faith a little better, let's take a look in the book of Mark in the New Testament. In the 5th chapter, verses 25 through 34, we find a woman that had been sick for many, many years. She spent all of her money on doctors to make her better, but no one could make her sickness go away. In fact, she had gotten worse and was close to dying. She heard that JESUS was coming and she knew with all of her heart that he could make her better. She had FAITH that he would heal her sickness if she could just touch him. She thought, "If I can just reach him and touch even his clothes, he will make me better."

No doubt there was a big crowd around Jesus that day. Lots of people pushed and shoved to get close to Jesus. The woman was so sick and weak, she had a hard time fighting through the crowds, but she kept trying and then she got just close enough that she could touch the outer edge of his clothes. When she touched him, in that instant, SHE WAS HEALED! Jesus turned around and said, "Who touched my clothes?" The woman was trembling because she knew that she was the one he was asking for and because she knew that she was healed of her sickness. She came before Jesus and told him that she was the one that touched him and that her sickness was gone. Jesus said, "Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague."

Do you see how faith is important to be a virtuous person? To be truly good, we need to believe in God and His promises. If women have faith like this sick woman did in our lesson, imagine what a good person, wife and mother they would be.

LESSON SONGS - AMAZING GRACE, JESUS LOVES ME

THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN - LESSON 2

WISDOM

Abigail

Proverbs 31:26 "She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness."

Yesterday we talked about how King Lemuel's mother described the kind of wife King Lemuel should look for. We discussed that a virtuous woman is a good woman that loves God, her husband and children, and takes care of her household. We also said that to be virtuous, it is important to believe in God and his promises through faith, just like the woman with the issue of blood that was healed by having faith and touching Jesus's clothes.

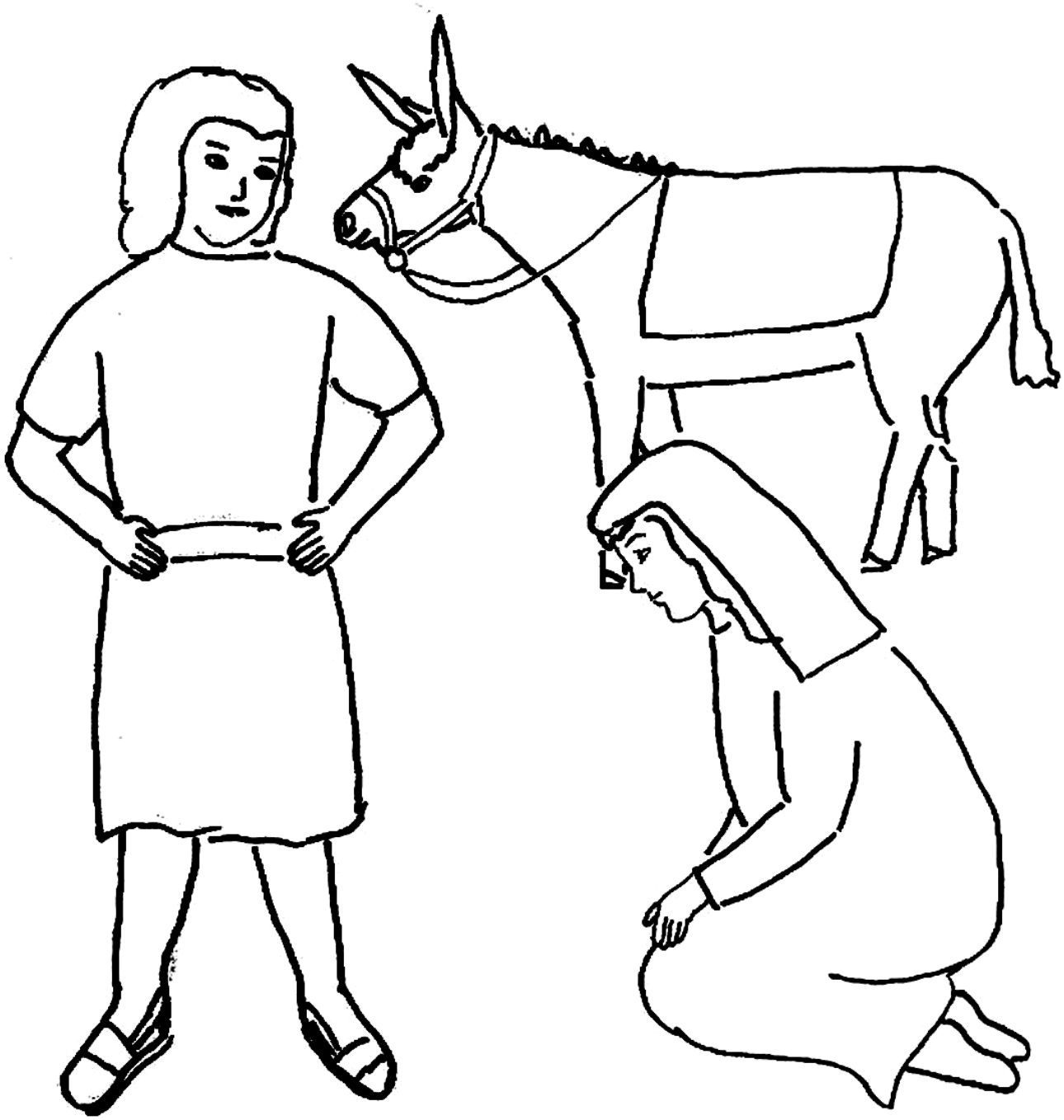
Today, we see in our memory verse that a virtuous woman is also wise. What does it mean to be wise? The dictionary says that wisdom means having experience, knowledge, and good judgment.

In 1 Samuel 25 we read about a woman named Abigail. She was a beautiful woman that was also very wise. Her husband, Nabal, was rich a man. He had many servants, land, and sheep, but he was not nice. The Bible said that he was evil and mean. King David had heard that Nabal was shearing his sheep and sent ten of his young men to go and greet Nabal in the king's name. King David told the young men to let Nabal know that while his shepherds were near King David's men in the city of Carmel, the men showed the shepherds kindness. As a sign of friendship, King David hoped that Nabal would show kindness to the ten young men in return, however, Nabal was mean. He disrespected King David, yelled at the young men and sent them away. When the young men told King David what Nabal had done, King David became angry, grabbed his sword and 400 of his men and went to punish Nabal for his meanness.

When a young servant told Nabal's wife, Abigail, what Nabal had done, she feared for the safety of her household and her husband. She quickly gathered together lots of tasty treats. In baskets she put breads, cakes, drinks, meat, raisins, and corn. She loaded them onto donkeys, and then rode out to where David and his soldiers were camping. When she got there, she bowed down with her face to the ground and begged David to forgive Nabal and to spare their lives. When King David heard all that Abigail said and saw all the gifts that she brought for him and his men, he was no longer angry and told Abigail that he would not harm her husband or her family.
Just like having faith, having wisdom is important when you want to be virtuous. Abigail was wise to talk to King David so that he would not be angry. Because of her wisdom, she saved her husband's life, as well as all of those that lived in their household.

How can we become wise? Proverbs 9:10 says, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding." When we love God and obey his word, he will give us wisdom.

LESSON SONGS - THE WISE MAN AND FOOLISH MAN



THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN - LESSON 3

COMPASSION

Ruth

Proverbs 31:20 "She stretcheth out her hand to the poor; yea, she reacheth forth her hands to the needy."

Have you ever had someone that you love get sick and you wanted to make them feel better? Have you ever had a friend who was sad and you wanted to make them happy? If you have ever felt like you wanted to help someone else that needed helping, then you have felt compassion for them. Compassion is a feeling of wanting to help someone who is sick, hungry, in trouble, etc.

The Old Testament in the Bible tells us about a woman named Naomi. She had a husband named Elimelech, and two sons, Mahlon and Chilion. One day, Elimelech died. Naomi was very sad because she loved her husband very much. After some time had passed, Naomi's sons got married. Mahlon married a woman named Ruth. Chilion married a woman named Orpah. Later, both of Naomi's sons died. This was a very sad time for Naomi and her daughters in law. Naomi knew that there was no reason for the two women to stay with her, so she told them to go back to their families. The women loved Naomi and didn't want to leave her, but Naomi insisted. Orpah finally agreed. She hugged her kind mother in law goodbye, and went back to her family. Ruth knew that if she left, Naomi would be very sad because she would be all alone. Ruth also knew that it would be difficult for a woman to find work and food when she was old with no sons or husband. Ruth had love and compassion for Naomi, so she stayed with her, helped her move to the land of her relatives, and took care of her.

Jesus said that if we love others the way that he loved us, then people will know that we are his disciples. If a woman wants to be virtuous, then it is very important that she shows love and compassion the way Ruth did to her mother in law. Ruth didn't think of what she wanted for herself, she only thought of making sure that her mother in law was taken care of.

Lesson Songs: God Is So Good, Jesus Loves Me, Jesus Loves The Little Children

THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN - LESSON 4

COURAGE

Esther

Deuteronomy 31:6 "Be strong and of a good courage, fear not, nor be afraid of them: for the Lord thy God, he it is that doth go with thee; he will not fail thee, nor forsake thee."

Did you know that the Bible says "do not fear" 365 times? The Bible tells us that we should not fear, but have courage because God is with us! How awesome is that?

Today we are going to talk about a brave young woman, who found herself in a scary situation, but she showed great courage because she knew that God was with her and would help her.

There was a king named Ahasuerus . He was looking for a new queen. Out of all the girls in the whole kingdom, Esther was chosen because she was very beautiful.

However, there was a big problem. You see, Esther was a Jew and there were evil men that worked for the king that did not like Jews.

Esther's parents died when she was young, so she was raised by her cousin, Mordecai. He told Esther not to tell anyone that she was a Jew out of fear that the evil men might kill her if they found out. Especially, an evil man named Haman.

Esther was sad to leave her cousin when she became queen, but it helped her to know that Mordecai worked in the palace that she would live in. They got to see each other every day. But one day, Mordecai was troubled. He told Esther that he overheard two men planning to kill the king! Mordecai wanted Esther to warn her husband of this plan, but she was afraid. Anyone who appeared before the king without permission was usually punished! But Esther had courage and knew that God was with her. She dressed in her beautiful royal robes and went to see the king.

Queen Esther entered the room where the king sat on his throne. He was surprised to see her, but instead of being angry and ordering her to be punished, he saw how beautiful she was and was happy to see her. Esther told her husband about the two men that planned to kill him. When the king found out that she was telling the truth, the two men were punished. The king loved Esther more for saving his life and he knew that he could trust her. Esther made sure that the King knew that it was Mordecai who really saved him.

Now, during this time, Haman was making Mordecai's life miserable. Since he worked closely with the King, he thought he was special and powerful, so he made everyone bow down to him when he walked by them. Mordecai refused to bow down to him because he would only bow down to God. Haman was very angry. He hated Mordecai and vowed that he would make him pay for his disobedience toward him.

To get back at Mordecai, Haman told the king that the Jews were breaking the law and causing a rebellion against him. Haman then tricked the king into ordering all of the Jewish people in the kingdom to be killed. The king agreed because he trusted Haman.

When Mordecai heard about the king's order, he sent a secret message to Esther. He wanted her to go to the king and beg him to spare their people.

Esther was very nervous. She had already gone before him without permission, and was afraid that he would start to get angry. She prayed for three days and asked God to help her before she went to see the king. She invited King Ahasuerus and Haman to join her for a banquet. During the dinner, Esther shared her secret and told them that she was a Jew. She begged the king to spare the lives of her people. The king was furious with Haman for tricking him and plotting to kill the queen and her people. Haman was punished and Mordecai was promoted to take Haman's place.

Esther's courage and faith in God saved her people.

Lesson Songs: I'm In the Lord's Army, My God Is So Big, He's Got the Whole World

THE VIRTUOUS WOMAN - LESSON 5

PURITY

Mary, the Mother of Jesus

Luke 1:38 "And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women."

Mary was a Jewish girl who lived in the city of Nazareth. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph. Mary did not know it yet, but God had chosen her from among all the Jewish maidens to fulfill a very special purpose for Him.

God sent the angel, Gabriel, to her with a message. Mary was afraid, but the angel told her that she was going to have a son, and that she would name Him Jesus. Mary's baby would be special. Jesus would have her as his earthly mother but his father would be God, Himself.

When Joseph, the man that Mary was going to marry, heard about the baby coming, he was very concerned. But God sent an angel to Joseph in a dream. The angel assured him that what Mary told him was true! The baby that was coming was God's own son!

When it was almost time for the baby to be born, Mary and Joseph went to the town of Bethlehem to be taxed. When they arrived, all the inns were filled because so many other people had also come to pay their taxes. The only place for them to stay was in a stable and it was there that Jesus, the Son of God, was born. Mary wrapped her baby in clothes and laid him in a manger, where the animals' hay was kept.

Joseph and Mary thanked God for the baby, Jesus. They knew that God had kept his promise to send his Son to save the whole world.

Mary was a virtuous woman and that is why God chose her to be the mother of His son, Jesus. Both Mary's heart and body were pure.

Lesson Songs: I Am A C-H-R-I-S-T-I-A-N, He's Still Working On Me, Though I'm Just a Tiny Tot