

Godly Relationships

**Embry Hills Church of Christ
Fall 2020**

Godly Relationships

Purity and the Nature of Men and Women Lesson 2

A. Introduction – Review

Review the Relationship Grid below and be prepared to give examples of relationships that might fit into each of the four quadrants:

Relationship Grid

| | | Direction of Influence | |
|--------------------------|------|---|---|
| | | UNGODLY | GODLY |
| Strength of Relationship | HIGH | Ungodly Influence; Powerful Relationship | Godly Influence; Powerful Relationship |
| | LOW | Ungodly Influence; Weak Relationship | Godly Influence; Weak Relationship |

B. Purity

1. Purity defined
 - a. Usually found its adjective form: “pure”. Two Greek words are translated pure: *hagnos* and *katharos*.
 - b. Vine’s: *Hagnos* – pure from defilement, not contaminated (same root word as *hagios* = holy). *Katharos* – pure, as being cleansed.
 - c. Dictionary of New Testament Theology: “*hagnos* is a word originally connected with a root meaning holy; it signifies a qualitative holiness or purity belonging to the deity and the associated things or persons.” “*Kathros* – indicating physical or moral cleanliness in persons and things”
2. Purity expressed and developed
 - a. Timothy was commanded to “keep yourself pure (*hagnos*)” – I Tim 5:22. Note this is contrasted to taking part in the sins of others.

- b. We are trained to be pure (*hagnos*) (Tit 2:5) and purify ourselves as Christ is pure (*hagnos*).
- c. Purity is to be seen in our conduct (I Peter 3:2) and example (I Timothy 4:2).
- d. Purity is also connected with our motives. We are to have a pure (*katharos*) heart as contrasted to youthful passions.
- e. I Peter 2:22 – how are we purified? What is produced by a pure (*katharos*) heart?

B. Differences in Men and Women

1. What was the beginning of the role (and temperament) difference between men and women (I Timothy 2:13-14; I Corinthians 11:8-9)?
2. Read I Thessalonians 2:7-9, and 10-12. List the ways Paul acted like a mother and like a father.
3. Contrast the various sex-specific commands and warnings. What differences between men and women are implied?
 - a. Men – I Tim 2:8; Matt 5:28; Titus 2:6-8; Eph 5:25, 28; I Pet 3:8
 - b. Women – I Tim 2:9-15; I Tim 5:13; Titus 2:3-5; Eph 5:22; I Pet 3:1-7; II Tim 3:6

In-Class Discussion Questions

1. Will the differences noted above produce different challenges to godliness and purity? Explain.
2. List some practical ways to measure/assess purity in ourselves:
3. Because of the differences in our temperaments, are there relationships that present more of a spiritual challenge to men? If so, provide examples and explain.
4. Likewise, are there relationships that present more of a spiritual challenge to women? If so, provide examples and explain.