

becoming MORE *Beautiful*



workbook



WEARING BEAUTIFUL

BECOMING A WOMAN DRESSED FOR THE WEDDING

REVELATION 19:7-8

For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear. (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God's holy people.)
Revelation 19:7-8

At weddings, the bride is the center of attention. The most anticipated moment of the wedding is the doors opening to see how beautiful the bride is and the beautiful dress she is wearing.

Often after a wedding someone will ask, "What did the bride wear?" Brides spend hundreds to thousands of dollars to purchase the perfect wedding dress.

The relationship between Christ and the church is likened to that of a bride and her bridegroom. The Bible speaks of a time when all the believers of Christ will be joined together with Jesus in heaven. The marriage will be of Jesus and His bride; the church.

As Christians, we are preparing for our wedding day. All attention will be on the bride adorned in a wedding dress "given her to wear". Jesus bought it on the cross. There will be a large feast held at that time called the marriage supper of the Lamb.

In the meantime, Jesus has much for us to do before He returns than simply waiting for His coming. We are not to be sitting around idle.

Jesus was "busy about the Father's business." To carry on his mission, Jesus gave his disciples and us the Great Commission recorded in Matthew 28:19-20:



"Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."

How is our preparing for the Lord's coming connected to the great commission?

We don't know the day or the hour that the Lord will come, but we are admonished to encourage one another. Commands to "Therefore encourage one another" is found in 1 Thessalonians 4:18 and in 1 Thessalonians 5:11. After the affirmation that "the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night", we are told: "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up".

When was the last time you encouraged someone, or someone encouraged you with words of the Lord's coming?

Is a crisis, the pandemic, or the fear of the Lord's return enough to cause the bride to make herself ready? If not, what is?

Why do you think there are very few Christians encouraging one another about the return of the Lord? What reasons, if honest, would Christians admit as to why they do not want the Lord to return anytime soon?

What resonates with you in Matthew 24:36-39: No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah

entered the ark; and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.

Are you ready for the wedding? Are you ready for the Bridegroom to return? Jeremiah 2:32 says, Does a young woman forget her jewelry, or a bride her wedding dress? Yet for years on end my people have forgotten me.

It is one thing to be a bride and another thing to be dressed for the wedding. Our bridegroom is interested in what we plan to wear to His wedding. He wants to clothe us in his finest Kingdom Collection.

Isaiah 61:10 says, I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels.





Proposal—Preparation—Presentation

Proposal – Key Verse: Revelation 22:17

“The Spirit and the bride say, “Come!” And let him who hears say, Come!” Whoever is thirsty, let him come; and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life.”

We all know that the most familiar proposal is John 3:16: For God so loved the world that He gave His Only Begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

There is something so beautiful about this proposal inviting us to “Come!” What other scriptures does he invite us to “come”.

Personal Invitation – Key Verses: Matthew 22:11-12

But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing wedding clothes. He asked, “How did you get in here without wedding clothes, friend?” The man was speechless.

Each one of us has to respond to the Lord Jesus Christ’s invitation to our heavenly wedding. God not only wants you to accept His invitation to the wedding, he wants you to be dressed appropriately by wearing the proper wedding clothes.

In this parable, one of the guests showed up inappropriately dressed for the occasion. Therefore, the king had him thrown out of the wedding.

Have you ever been to an event and didn't dress appropriately?

Preparation – Key Verse: Revelation 19:7

Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready.

Notice that it doesn’t say that the Lord made the bride ready. It says that “the bride made herself ready”. We are to make ourselves ready for the coming of the Lord.

Since the Bride makes herself ready, what does this require on her part? What is her motivation?

Presentation – Key Verse: Revelation 19:8

Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear. (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God's holy people.)

The bride makes herself ready by responding 'yes' to Jesus. With each yes, the bride is clothing herself in a beautiful wedding dress of righteous acts. The righteousness mentioned here is not the righteousness of Christ, it is the righteous acts of the bride herself with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus has purchased our wedding dress, but it is up to us to put it on and wear his beautiful righteousness.

What areas of your life are you struggling in putting on your wedding dress?

We all are naturally drawn to what is beautiful—scenery, paintings, buildings. It is important that the world sees the bride adorned—
Wearing Beautiful: Becoming a Woman Dressed for the Wedding—
through righteous living so that we can point people to Christ.

Our righteous acts will not go unnoticed by our Bridegroom. Before we are presented before the Lord, we will all have to stand before the judgement seat of Christ to give an account of the righteous acts we carried out in the power of the Holy Spirit.

2 Timothy 4:8 tells us that there's a crown of righteousness that awaits those who have longed for His appearing.

Let's await the Bridegroom encouraging others about His return. Let's make daily choices and decisions to love Jesus and obey Him. Let's live like we are his bride because we were made for a righteous and beautiful life.

There is a wedding coming soon. It's time to get dressed and live out beautiful before a dying world. Together our beautiful can save the world.

