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Mystique of a Woman

*For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus,
so that we can do the good things He planned for us long ago.*

—Ephesians 2:10

Embrace the mystery of all you can be.—Michael W. Smith

What is mystique? Webster defines it as “an air of mystery and reverence developing around someone.” During a 1986 Focus on the Family broadcast with Jean Lush, Dr. James Dobson said, “A woman who has mystique has a certain belief in her worth, in her position, in her personality, and in her relationships.” Bottom line, mystique is inner confidence.

How do we develop an air of mystery and reverence? Is it possible to cultivate belief in our worth, position, personality, and relationships?

Yes! When a woman focuses on the four traits of mystique: assurance, advance, appearance, and attitude, inner confidence will bloom.

Assurance

Do you struggle with feelings of low self-worth?

In the past, I often found myself discouraged and frustrated in my relationships with others. I didn't realize my poor self-image caused the inadequacy I felt as a wife, mother, and friend. In my head, I kept hearing the message: "I am good enough—until someone better comes along." I was convinced it was only a matter of time before that happened.

I recall the episode which planted the lie in my heart. Marilyn was my best friend in fourth grade. We did everything together, including staying overnight at each other's house. In fifth grade, two girls began including Marilyn in their circle—excluding me. Marilyn walked out of my life, and I never understood why. Satan planted the lie that I was good enough until someone better came along.

What negative messages echo through your mind?

Many people, including Christians, do not realize the tactics of our enemy, Satan. John 10:10 says, "The thief's purpose is to steal and kill and destroy." I have found that the possession which Satan most wants to steal from us is the knowledge of our identity in Christ, or, in other words, the conviction of how deeply God values us now that we're His adopted children. Satan knows we are tremendously valued by God, and he fears the day we believe it. He pummels us with negative messages concerning our worth, brainwashing us to keep us from the truth.

If you have accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior²⁸, you can break free from the lies and discover the truth about who you really are.

²⁸ See Chapter One, "Equipping for the Journey."

The only way to be truly self-assured—to possess the inner confidence that alludes so many—is to know how deeply the Father loves you. You were created to be a unique reflection of God. No one else bears His image quite like you do. You are so deeply and passionately loved and valued by God that He sent His only son, Jesus, to die for you, to rescue you from Satan, and bring you back into His home, so that, in the ages to come, He could shower upon you the immeasurable riches of His kindnesses. The King of the Universe wants you to be His precious bride for all time.

Unfortunately, too many of us have memorized these truths but never understood them with our hearts. The apostle Paul knew how critical it was for us to understand and experience God's great love for us, so we could know it in our minds and feel it in our hearts. That's why he prayed,

May your roots go down deep into the soil of God's marvelous love. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep his love really is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is so great you will never fully understand it. Then you will be filled with the fullness of life and power that comes from God.²⁹

When you see yourself in the mirror of your past, what others have said about you, or your own experiences, you live in defeat. When you see yourself in the mirror of God's love and His Word, you are assured of your great worth and experience an abundant life.

²⁹ Ephesians 3:17b-19.

LISTEN TO THE TRUTH

“[L]et God transform you into a new person by changing the way you think.”³⁰ Satan will continue to demean you with negative messages until you accept God’s truth about yourself. As you feed daily from God’s Word, He will rewire your thinking.

Speak aloud the following verses, and any others you find which encourage you, every day. This is the voice of truth!

- I am loved by God.—Ephesians 2:4
- Nothing can separate me from His love.—Romans 8:38
- He chose me.—Ephesians 1:4
- I have been bought with a price.—1 Corinthians 6:20
- I am His workmanship created in Christ Jesus for good works.
—Ephesians 2:10
- God is able to do abundantly beyond all that I ask or think.
—Ephesians 3:20
- I am more than a conqueror through Him who loves me.
—Romans 8:37

This is what God says. If you don’t believe Him, you are calling God a liar! You can be assured through God’s Word that your worth is immeasurable. As you learn, your confidence will bud as you see yourself through God’s eyes. Assurance of what your Father God thinks of you is the foundation of inner confidence.

Even as I’ve grown in assurance, sometimes I’m tempted to become possessive of my friends when we are among other women, fearing that I’m not good enough, but I recognize the enemy’s lie, and I don’t

³⁰ Romans 12:2.

question my worth. I speak my Father's words concerning me, and I experience His love, acceptance, and peace.

A woman of mystique will find assurance of her worth as she spends time in the presence of the mighty God who loves her dearly.

Advance

Once you realize you are an amazing woman with immense potential, surrounded by God's love, you will discover within you the courage to step into the adventures God has planned for you. Advance is all about fulfilling the plans that the Lord has for you.

I have always dreamed of writing and becoming a published author, but my journey of advance didn't start there. It began by home schooling my kids through junior high. When my youngest child left to attend high school, I began teaching at church. This sparked a desire to become a better speaker which led me to take a course on speaking. It was at the speaking class where I was encouraged to write about the topics that I'm passionate about. God will work out His plans for your life as you advance.

But what does advance have to do with your marriage?

James Dobson said, "Men were born to conquer, seek, and search."³¹ Men want a challenge! We can see this in the hobbies that interest them. When you consider the lengths that some men go to in order to hunt wild game or catch fish, you begin to get the picture. I'm not married to a hunter, but my husband is always on the hunt for a challenge!

Tom has taken up many new challenges during our life together. He has made many job changes across industry lines and has taken up hobbies ranging from the restoration of old horse carriages to planting vineyards. His love for challenges also shows up in little things. Tom will

³¹ *Focus on the Family*, Dr. James Dobson, WCSG, Colorado Springs, 1986.

go to great lengths to keep our old, hand-propelled lawn mower from becoming scrap metal!

Your husband took on the challenge of pursuing you until you said, “I do.” Men love a challenge!

Since men are drawn to a challenge, why should a woman become dull—refusing to grow, learn, and advance herself after marriage? You were advancing when you were dating, so why stop now? Your marriage may need a spark to ignite the thrill of a challenge in your husband.

As you focus on advance by learning new things and consequently gaining inner confidence, your husband will be intrigued. One woman shared her story of advance with me:

Getting involved as a Beautiful Womanhood coordinator has made my husband proud of me, take a step back, and say, “Whoa! Who did I marry?” I didn’t realize how stuck in a rut I was after being married for a while, having kids, etc. Since learning about mystique, I’ve taken a class at the Bible college our church offers, taken several quilting classes, a knitting class, and then I actually taught a knitting class. All of these things have surprised me and my husband so much. It’s fun to keep him guessing about what I will be doing next!

UNCOVER YOUR PASSIONS

What are you so excited about that you can’t keep quiet? What brings you deep gladness? What are there needs that you are motivated to fill? In what area of your life has God done something so amazing that you just have to share it with others?

When my children were young, we couldn’t afford private education so I made the choice to home school. Creating lesson plans, planning field trips, and encouraging my kids’ dancing and musical abilities became my passion. I was glad (most days) to have my children home with me, and I was motivated to fill this need.

Now, my passion is the Beautiful Womanhood ministry. God has done so much in my marriage that I want to share all I have learned with others so that they don't have to make the same mistakes I did. I feel God's call to this place where my deep gladness and the world's deep hunger meet. As I step out courageously, "the Lord will fulfill his purpose for me."³²

One Biblical example of an advancing woman is the Proverbs 31 woman. This woman clearly loved fabric! "She finds wool and flax and busily spins it....She quilts her own bedspreads. She dresses like royalty in gowns of finest cloth....She makes belted linen garments and sashes to sell to the merchants."³³

Her passion for gardening caused her to be on the lookout for a great piece of property. "She goes out to inspect a field and buys it; with her earnings she plants a vineyard."³⁴

Her passions took her in many directions, and she eventually realized her goals. This woman had uncovered her passions and was about the business of developing them.

As this woman advanced, it deeply affected her husband. He praised her and said, "There are many virtuous and capable women in the world, but you surpass them all!"³⁵ He was impressed by all she accomplished. He was fascinated by her.

Deborah, a Beautiful Womanhood Mentor, shares her story of advance:

I have a great passion for reading. Years ago, I had a strong desire to become a better wife and mother, and I found the help I

³² Psalms 138:8, RSV.

³³ Proverbs 31:13, 22, 24.

³⁴ Proverbs 31:16.

³⁵ Proverbs 31:29.

needed in the Bible and Christian self-help books. I read everything I could get my hands on. Reading allowed me to grow and become a better wife and mother.

Now, I pass on what I have learned through my study of God's Word, good books, and practical experience to help others become better wives and mothers. I mentor many women one-on-one and during Beautiful Womanhood luncheons.

Deborah is a dynamic woman of God, confident in her place in the body, and she is being used by God. Like He did with her, God will use your passions to bless others.

“Given the way creation unfolds, how it builds to ever higher and higher works of art, can there be any doubt that Eve is the crown of creation? Not an afterthought. Not a nice addition like an ornament on a tree. She is God's final touch, his *piece de resistance*. She fills a place in the world nothing and no one else can fill... Look out across the earth and say to yourselves, ‘The whole, vast world is incomplete without me. Creation reached its zenith in me.’”³⁶

Do you believe that God had amazing plans in mind when He created you?

When you focus on learning new things—advancing—you begin to discover ways in which you can fulfill the plans the Lord has for you. Psalms 138:8 says, “The Lord will work out his plans for my life—for your faithful love, O Lord, endures forever.”

CONSIDER THE SEASON

If you work outside the home, you are already building mystique by advancing. You might not have the time you desire to pursue all your passions, but your husband will be grateful for and proud of your

³⁶ John and Staci Eldredge, *Captivating*, (Nashville: Thomas Nelson, 2005) 25.

contribution to the family. No matter what type of work you do, think about how you can add your own special touch to the job. You can be “the aroma of Christ among those who are being saved and those who are perishing.”³⁷

Different times and seasons of life affect passions. When my children were small, I focused on my passion to see them be all they could be. Now that my children are grown, I am able to focus on my passion to help women be all they can be. God didn’t pass me by during the years I was ministering to my children and taking care of my home. He was preparing me for the next step of advance.

If you have young children or a job outside the home, finding the time to uncover and develop your passions can be difficult. Have patience while your children grow and until your circumstances change. God has a plan for your life; He will fulfill it. As you advance where you’re placed, God will use you in ways you would never have imagined.

MAKE TIME

Because most women lead hectic lives, you may have to use time previously devoted to other things in order to begin pursuing your passions.

For one week, keep track of the activities that you’re involved in and the time each takes. Evaluate whether or not you could be spending your time more wisely. Are there any TV programs that you could eliminate? Could you shorten your time on the internet? On the phone?

If you have young children, plan to invest a small amount of time while your children are napping or watching a favorite television show or video. You may have time to only read about the area of your passion,

³⁷ 2 Corinthians 2:15, NIV.

but that's a great place to start. You'll be laying the groundwork for future endeavors.

MAINTAIN PRIORITIES

Maintaining proper priorities is equally important to uncovering your passions and developing them. Your mystery, your mystique, will soon fade if you forsake your priorities in favor of your passions.

God, your husband, and your children should be your top priorities—in that order, followed by your passion. We can neglect God, our first priority, when we chase our passion to the exclusion of Him. This is possible even when our passion is ministry—Martha was so busy serving Jesus she forgot the “one thing” God most desires: drawing near to Him.

If your husband is unsupportive of your passion, ask him why and listen carefully to his feedback.³⁸ Don't respond right away, but tell him you appreciate his thoughts and will think about what he's said. Take some time to prayerfully consider his objections. In a true partnership, contrary opinions aren't an excuse to dismiss the other person. There must be a reason for his concern. Get to the bottom of that concern, and you will discover more about yourself and your husband. If you still don't agree with your husband's original assessment, tell him you've considered his thoughts and would like to revisit the discussion. “God is not the author of confusion but of peace.”³⁹ He wouldn't ask you to submit to your husband and then tell you to proceed with a passion your husband isn't in favor of. Listen to what God is telling you through His Word and prayer.

When the Lord first placed the vision for Beautiful Womanhood in my heart, I literally gushed about Beautiful Womanhood. I thought

³⁸ See Chapter Three, “Inviting Romance.”

³⁹ 1 Corinthians 14:33a, NKJV.

about Beautiful Womanhood during the day and dreamed about it at night. Whenever Tom and I were alone, I'd talk about Beautiful Womanhood. It didn't matter what we would start talking about, I'd always bring the topic back to Beautiful Womanhood. In all honesty, I was obnoxious! I didn't listen to Tom as I had in the past—I was intent on talking about my passion. Passion that neglects priorities isn't beautiful.

After my first seminar, Tom suggested I take a week off to recover from all the study and preparations that had consumed me for so long. I was rather annoyed that he felt it necessary for me to take a break. I actually wondered if he was trying to stand in the way of my progress for the Lord. My attitude was causing a lot of tension between us.

I decided to drop my defenses long enough to see if he had a point, so I took the week off. It became clear that my home had become a sacrifice on the altar of Beautiful Womanhood. Many of my responsibilities in the home had been neglected, and I wasn't showing respect to Tom as I made everything about me. Beautiful Womanhood is a good thing, but it's not more important than obeying God and honoring my husband. I had forsaken many priorities in favor of my passion.

I was surprised to find that the Proverbs 31 woman, as focused on advance as she was, seemed to be deliberate about maintaining her priorities. The passage recounts her efforts to get up early in order to feed her family (verse 15), shop for bargains (verse 18), and reach out to those less fortunate (verse 20). She had her eye on everything that was going on under her roof. Her passions did not surpass her priorities.

The Lord will never ask you to sacrifice your priorities to follow your passion. He is not a God of confusion; He is a God of peace. Finding balance may take some work, but seek peace and you will find it. If your

family members are often left to fend for themselves, if there is tension between you and your husband, or if there is a lack of peace in your home, something is out of balance. Lay your passion aside long enough to determine what is causing strife in your home. If damage occurs in your family, no amount of success in your passion will make up for it. Maintaining your priorities will ensure your advance won't be temporary.

Uncovering your passions and developing them while maintaining your priorities will set you on the path towards advance.

Appearance

Some women may balk at the suggestion that appearance plays an important role in her relationship with her husband, but it would be unwise to ignore the evidence to the contrary.

Why is appearance important for developing mystique? Let me answer that question with another. Do you have more confidence when you look your best? Of course you do. Jill Krieger Swanson says, "Clothing and appearance affect how we feel and think about ourselves. They can lift our spirits and help give us confidence to face the real world."⁴⁰ When we look and feel our best, it does wonders for our self-confidence, and that's what mystique is all about.

While looking our best makes us feel more confident, there is a second reason for maintaining a good appearance. Men are visual.

One reason your husband married you was because you were attractive to him. When we make the effort to look good, it makes them feel loved and cared for. This will improve your relationship with your husband—thus giving you more confidence! Shaunti Feldhahn's book, *For Women Only*, reveals how important appearance is to our husbands.

⁴⁰ Jill Krieger Swanson, *Simply Beautiful: Inside and Out*, (Minneapolis: River City Press, 2005) 1.

She writes, “Since men are so visual, seeing us make the effort to look good makes them feel loved and cared for.”⁴¹ When Feldhahn conducted a survey, seven out of ten men indicated that they would be emotionally bothered if the woman in their life let herself go and didn’t seem to want to make the effort to do something about it.

We loved it that he was attracted to us while we were dating. Let’s continue to be attractive to him in our marriage.

DEFINE YOUR STYLE

What style makes you look and feel great?

When you look in your closet and examine your lifestyle, which clothes best reflect your personality? We are all individuals; our individuality should shine through our personal style. I have enjoyed talking with many women about who they are, from the inside out. The words you use to describe your personality can also be used to identify your personal style.

I hope you’ll come up with your own term that defines your personal style. I know several women who have done this, and it’s lots of fun! I’ll list a few in order to stir your creativity: Classic Comfortable, Feminine 40s and 50s, Urban Glamour, Classic Vintage, Earthy Bohemian, Natural Romance, Vivid Whimsy, and Soulful Nouveau. Because you are a unique creation of God, the sky’s the limit when defining your own personal style.

A focus on appearance in order to gain self confidence shouldn’t pressure you to become someone you’re not but instead help you discover how to best express your uniqueness. The process of revealing your personality and expressing it through personal style takes time; it

⁴¹ Shaunti Feldhahn, *For Women Only: What You Need to Know about the Inner Lives of Men*, (Sisters: Multnomah, 2004) 165.

doesn't happen in a day. Remember, it's not about perfection according to the world's standards but about finding and enhancing your uniqueness. Enjoy!

In the movie, *What a Girl Wants*, a young man says to the girl he loves, "Why try so hard to fit in when you were born to stand out?" Finding and developing your unique mystique will cause you to stand out in confidence.

Angela, a woman involved in a Beautiful Womanhood Luncheon, writes:

My whole life, when I looked in the mirror, I saw an ugly woman. I would compare myself with everyone. This wore me out. My husband would tell me that I was beautiful, but I couldn't absorb the compliment. I'd tell him that he was under contract to say that! Now, when I look in the mirror, I feel beautiful. I have my own style. For the first time in my life I feel comfortable being me! This has been the most life-changing lesson for me.

Angela has developed her own personal style, and her self confidence has soared.

CONSIDER HIS PREFERENCE

It's also important to consider your husband's preference when considering appearance. In the Bible, when Esther was vying for the position of queen, "she accepted the advice of Hegai, the eunuch in charge of the harem. She asked for nothing except what he suggested, and she was admired by everyone who saw her."⁴² Hegai knew the king better than anyone, and she was wise to consult him. Taking his advice

⁴² Esther 2:15b.

helped her land the position of queen. Considering your husband's input will help you win his admiration.

One woman asked me for advice because her husband liked to see her in suits, but she didn't care for them. I suggested she wear them on an occasional Sunday, for special occasions, or when going out for a date with him. I'm not suggesting that you become someone else's ideal, but, when it comes to your husband, try to incorporate his preferences.

I've had other young women tell me their husband wanted them to dress immodestly for them in public. You should not dress in a provocative way in public, even to entice your husband. However, after you put your kids to bed, you can slip into something that will invite him to pursue you. If you strike that balance—if he knows that you're willing to seduce him—he will be more understanding when you explain why you don't dress in such a way that might encourage others to lust.

Focusing on your appearance with an eye toward individuality and your husband's preference will enhance your self confidence and improve your marriage.

Attitude

The fourth focus of mystique is *attitude*. A woman of mystique develops good attitudes toward her husband, toward others, and toward herself.

Why is developing good attitudes so important to mystique? Positive attitudes improve relationships and improved relationships give us more confidence.

DISCRETION

Proverbs 11:20 says, "A woman who is beautiful but lacks discretion is like a gold ring in a pig's snout." Webster defines discretion as a cautious

reserve in speech. Caution isn't something many of us exercise in regard to our communication with our husband, but we should.

A woman of mystique recognizes that her husband may not think like her. I prefer to discuss schedules and issues first thing in the morning, but I am not married to a morning person. I have learned (and am still learning) to use discretion when I speak. "There is a time for everything...a time to be quiet and a time to speak up."⁴³ Tom may not have noticed my improved sense of timing, but I know that it has prepared the way for more effective communication with him.

You may want to unload all the day's happenings on your husband as soon as you see each other in the evening, but your husband might prefer that you give him a chance to unwind before going over your list of things to discuss with him.

A question I ask myself before speaking to my husband is, "Am I regurgitating everything that I've experienced during the day?" Like Tom, maybe your husband will appreciate you saving certain details for your girlfriends.

In addition to discretion with regards to your husband's style and preferences, a woman of mystique does not gossip about others. Do you put others down in order to feel better about yourself? This feeling is not mystique. If you are sharing confidential or personal information that *you* wouldn't want shared with others, don't do it—even with your husband. This destroys mystique. There is no mystery to a woman who has a loose mouth. Everyone knows what she thinks about everything.

May others say of you as David said of Abigail, "Blessed be your discretion and blessed be you..."⁴⁴

⁴³ Ecclesiastes 3:1a, 7b.

⁴⁴ 1 Samuel 25:33, RSV.

ENCOURAGEMENT

Is your husband discouraged? Are there areas of his life needing a healthy dose of encouragement?

A woman with inner confidence is able to encourage her husband and others because she is self-assured. When you are self-assured, you have the energy to focus on others because it isn't all drained away focusing on yourself.

You can't give what you don't possess, so it is vital to receive the encouragement God gives through His Word in order to give it away. I keep a list of verses containing promises I come across in my daily Bible reading, and I record them in a journal for easy access when Tom needs encouragement. I encourage him with God's Word.

When my husband is feeling low, I also encourage him by calling out the strengths and talents I see in his life. This encouragement is a sustaining factor when he struggles with difficult issues. He is grateful for my belief in him and I feel good knowing I've spoken honest, life-giving, positive words during troubled times.

When you are a positive force in others' lives, it enhances mystique. Knowing you are making a difference in their lives increases your inner confidence. "[T]hose who refresh others will themselves be refreshed."⁴⁵

Some of a woman's mystery is found in her deep thoughtfulness. She is tuned in to the needs of her husband and is willing to give him the encouragement he so desperately needs.

COURAGE

A courageous woman is not afraid to learn and grow as an individual. Many women defeat themselves in their mind before ever attempting anything new.

⁴⁵ Proverbs 11:25b.

In what area are you in need of courage?

When I was young, I was very shy about meeting new people. Whenever we were invited to a gathering with people I didn't know, I'd beg Tom to stay home because my inner confidence was low. I was focused on the fact that I was shy around new people and didn't make friends easily. This kept me from achieving anything different than what I believed about myself. Proverbs 29:25 exposed my wrong thinking: "Fearing people is a dangerous trap, but to trust the Lord means safety."

I have learned you have to face your fear in order to dispel it, pressing past the thing you fear doing to "do it afraid" as Joyce Meyer says. I like the way the Amplified Bible translates Philippians 4:13: "I am ready for anything and equal to anything through Him Who infuses inner strength in me." It's true! With God's help, His strength in me is enough to do the very things I fear. When I press past my fear and do something afraid, I find that the fear was much worse than the action I feared doing. President Roosevelt's words ring true, "The only thing we have to fear is fear itself." I now meet new women everywhere I speak, and it's one of my favorite things about ministry. I've learned the art of interacting one on one with new people, and it is a tremendous blessing. It has added to my inner confidence—my mystique.

Discretion, encouragement, and courage will do wonders for building mystique. You will be surprised at how your inner confidence grows as you embrace these attitudes.

Becoming a woman of mystique is a life-long process—there is nothing "instant" about it. I have certainly grown in mystique as the years have passed. That's one of the joys of growing older. I often felt the progress was excruciatingly slow. For the most part, I have grown one step at a time—not fully realizing where God was leading. Looking back, I am amazed at how a series of small steps became a journey to new and exciting places.

Begin now to develop your *assurance, advance, appearance,* and *attitudes* that will bring about inner confidence in your worth, your position, your personality, and your relationships.

Enjoy the journey as you grow in mystique.

Chapter Review

MAIN POINT

A focus on *assurance*, *advance*, *appearance*, and *attitude* causes you to experience inner confidence which improves your relationship with your husband.

DISCUSSION

1. What phrase(s) often plays in your mind and undermines your belief in yourself? Where did it come from: your past, your experiences, what other people said about you? What's your earliest memory in connection with that phrase? Does it agree with God's Word?
2. Imagine deleting that phrase and inserting what God says about you instead. If you did that, how would it affect your choices? Your relationship with your husband?
3. What dreams or ideas have you thought about over the years? Which ones would you like to advance in? Does one draw you more than the others? Why or why not?
4. Is now a good season for advancing? If so, draft a plan. If not, when might be?
5. What is one small action you could take to set yourself on the path of that process?
6. Consider the pattern of your life. What do your actions show are your priorities?
7. What words would you use to describe your personality and thus your personal style?

8. What do you like about your personality? Your appearance?
9. Where do you try to “fit in” rather than embrace your uniqueness? What steps can you take to express your individuality?
10. What area of discretion—timing, details, or gossip—is most difficult for you? Why?
11. Do you seek opportunities to be a positive force of encouragement in your husband’s life? How has this affected him?

ACTION STEP

Uncover two passions in your life. Make a plan for advancing in them when the time is right.

PRAYER

Lord, help me understand the depth of your love for me. Replace the lies of the enemy with the truth of your Word. Work out your plans for my life. Show me where I can take steps to fulfill your plans for me. Help me show love for my husband by taking care with my appearance. Finally, help me walk in discretion, encouragement, and courage so I can be a blessing to my husband and all those around me. Amen.

TALK TO YOUR HUSBAND

Because this chapter focuses on developing your inner confidence creating a mystery that draws others to you, conversing about mystique beforehand defeats the purpose. Instead, if your husband begins noticing a newfound confidence about you, take it from there. Share how the *assurance* of how God sees you has made an impact on your life. Discuss

your ideas of *advance* with him. Ask and consider his input concerning your *appearance*.

SUGGESTED READING

“Who I Am in Christ”—Freedom in Christ Ministries

Captivating—John and Stasi Eldredge

For Women Only—Shaunti Feldhahn

Simply Beautiful: Inside and Out—Jill Krieger Swanson

FEEDBACK

We want to hear from you about this chapter. Log on to www.beautifulwomanhood.com/feedback and answer a few questions that will help us improve the Beautiful Womanhood program. Your feedback is important to us!