



## Season 2 Trailer “Better Together: Doing Womanhood Well”

Hey there, friends! Season 2 of the Life on Life podcast is kicking off February 13th and we’re going to spend this whole season talking about womanhood and how we can be **women who do womanhood well.**

Hey, it’s no accident that you were created as a woman. It wasn’t a random act. God intentionally dreamed you up as a woman. He specifically created every feminine part of you, and purposefully appointed you to be a woman at this particular time in history, in this generation, in the place you’re living your life in this very moment.

Why? **Because there was something that God dreamed and planned specifically for you to be and to do as part of his grand plan on this earth-- that only you as a woman could do.**

Just let that settle in on you for a quick minute as you listen to this great definition of “womanhood.”

John Piper once shared a definition of this very concept that I love. He said, Biblical womanhood **“is a distinctive calling of God to display the glory of his Son in ways that would not be displayed if there were no womanhood.”**

Think about that! Just imagine what our world would look like without women in it. I know what you’re thinking—nothing would ever get done. And you’re right. Because just as God created man and woman in his own image—male and female, he created them...not just as companions for one another, but to ultimately fulfill his plan in displaying the glory of his Son.

And so here we are, *created* as females, *called* to be women— half of the human team that God created to display the glory of Jesus in only the ways that you and I can do... *as women.*

We’ve got a calling: womanhood; and we’ve got an assignment: ***to do womanhood well to the glory of God.***

I love being a woman. I always have. I love that God created me to be a woman right here and right now with the opportunities that women have in this day and time; and with the wonderfully wise and strong female voices who are exhorting women in the body of Christ to get out there and run their race to the glory of God.

Even as I'm just about to turn another year older, I've never been more excited about this decade of life and what my calling as a woman looks like in this season. I'm excited about the generation *ahead* of me... women still fighting the good fight and getting after it in their "past the age" season; and I'm excited and expectant for generation behind me...with their fiery hearts for Jesus who are unafraid to stand for Truth—like I see my own granddaughters and in my daughters in the faith doing. I love that! And I love running with these women... spurring them on... each of us stirring one another up to "love and good works."

While womanhood is wonderful in so many ways, it's also hard. But I don't have to tell you that. It's not for the faint of heart. But what makes it even harder is when we try to go it alone.

### **Why do we do this? Why do we end up isolating ourselves and going it alone?**

#### **Because woman-to-woman, life-on-life relationships can be scratchy.**

We wound and we get wounded. We hurt one another's feelings. We get excluded. We get competitive and gripey and jealous and defensive and resentful and...offended and then we become divided and isolated and unfruitful and ineffective for the Kingdom. All because we took the bait.

Yep—the bait!

See, here's the thing. That, too, is part of a plan. Satan's plan. Satan knows that the XX chromosome is a fierce threat to him. (We'll unpack more of this from Genesis 3 in this season.) He knows that we are not only BETTER TOGETHER, but we are a MORE POWERFUL FORCE TOGETHER, and we are MORE USEFUL together, and more EFFECTIVE for the Kingdom...*TOGETHER*.

Satan is the enemy of God and the enemy of your soul, and he is afraid of what could happen to him if we women actually stand up and stand together – so he gets us stirred us up against each other!

But, there is a better way. God is calling us to healthy, happy, powerfully and profoundly effective woman-to-woman relationships in the body of Christ... and one thing I know for

sure after decades of living life, following Jesus, is that **I cannot go it alone. You cannot go it alone. I need you, and you need me. And we need one another.**

Did you know there are over 58 “one another” passages in the Bible that reinforce this truth: WE NEED EACH OTHER.

Because here’s the thing: *We will become who God has created us to be and do what God has created us to do ONLY by His Spirit and WITH one another.*

Let me say that again - **the only way we will fulfill our callings and achieve the profound purpose God intended for us is by the power of the Holy Spirit working through us in authentic relationships with one another... together.**

We were created for God to be in relationship with Him, and we were created to be in relationship with one another... created for effective and fruitful community with one another—as women in the body of Christ. This is how we show Jesus to the non-believing world: by our love for one another. Not superficial “love ya” kind of love. But the *shoulder-to-shoulder, I’ve got your back and you’ve got mine, in the trenches together* kind of agape love. True companions, life-on-life.

It’s time to stop comparing ourselves and competing with one another. The bible says in 2 Corinthians 10:12 that it’s not wise to strive *against* one another, in fact we are meant to *strive together*...to stir one another up to love and good works as it’s written in Hebrews 10:24-25.

We can do this, sisters!

**We really can live at our best with one another and do womanhood well** because we have God. Not only with us but in us. We are carriers of the life and the power of God himself in the person of the Holy Spirit... that’s how much he is for us! And if God is for us—who can be against us? That’s *not* a rhetorical question.

And since God is for us *and* since we are created in his image, that means he has **created us to be for one another**... to be life-givers— encouraging one another, celebrating, elevating and loving one another well; running together and helping each other to become every bit the women God created us to be.

Here’s my thought: We as women need to become really, really excellent at loving one another well. And that starts with the woman in our bathroom mirror.

- *You can't love others to any greater degree than you love yourself; and you can't love yourself to any greater degree than you KNOW and BELIEVE God's love for you.*

And that's exactly what we're going to unpack over the next several weeks in Season 2 of the Life on Life podcast... it's all about ***doing womanhood well***.

Because this message is too important not to dig into. It's a life-message...one I've taught and encouraged the women I run with... women in my own church, women I disciple. But it started with me—because God most certainly teaches me the lesson and the truth first (and not without jabs to my own flesh), because I needed it. And if I needed it then I know many of you out there need it, too. Because we women are more alike than we realize. And while I don't see each of you or talk to you daily, nevertheless, you are always on my mind and heart. You're the women, you're the tribe God has given me to disciple. You are why I do what I do... and what we do through this ministry. And I love you and I want us all to grow into the women God created us to be... women who do womanhood really, really well, to the glory of God.

SO! Michelle and I are lacing up our shoes and we are going to run with you... we're going to dig deep into the Scriptures with you *together*.

- We've got some fun things planned and some great resources to share with you—like **SPIRITUAL LIFE HACKS** in every episode... super practical tools for you to put into practice in your everyday life that will help you and equip you to run *your* race so that you can help another woman run hers.
- We've also invited some of our friends to join us from time to time, because it's good to hear from other women who are getting after it... women of various ages and stages of life to see how they've done womanhood well.
- And I'm going to introduce you to some of my dearest “friends” in the Scriptures. Real women, sisters in the faith whose lives and stories have stirred me up and spurred me on to fiercely run my race for Jesus.

So get ready--- season TWO starts February 13<sup>th</sup>. Grab a friend or two...tell them how to find the podcast and listen in... and let's do this together!

Ok, that's that for that. See you next week and remember, you are greatly and dearly loved by the King!

xo -P