



Counterfeit — Week 2: “Counterfeit Femininity”

CONNECT: What was your favorite doll/action figure or toy when you were growing up? (Barbie, G.I.-Joe, favorite stuffed animal, etc.)

GROW:

1. Describe a moment in your own life when someone made you feel “less than” or inferior. How did it affect you? How did you respond?
2. Lydia highlighted several counterfeit messages around womanhood. (Examples: It is *bad* to be a woman, it is *better* to be a woman, it is *unnecessary* to be a woman, etc.) Which of these counterfeits have you seen the most throughout our culture today? How can each of these messages be harmful to women?
3. **Read Genesis 2:18** - God told Adam that it was not good for man to be alone and that He would send a “helper” (*ezer*: helper, strength) that was “suitable” (*kenegdo*: corresponding, face to face).
 - a. How did the message on Sunday change your understanding of these two words?
 - b. What does the meaning of these words tell us about God’s heart toward women and His extraordinary purpose for them?
4. Think of a time in your own life when women have provided relational wisdom or nurturing at just the right moment. Take a few minutes to share your own “Along Came Woman” story and how it impacted your life.
5. **Read Philippians 2:5-11** - Christ humbled Himself by taking on the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. As we look at our gender roles, how can we uniquely serve the men and women in our lives this week? How can we use our strengths to complement one another?

PRAY: Take some time to pray for the women who have impacted you and reminded you of Jesus. Also, say a prayer for women who may not know Jesus—that they would begin to understand how deep His love and purpose is for them.

NEXT: Write a hand-written note of encouragement to a woman in your life and let them know how grateful you are to know them.