

**WOMEN  
ARE  
LIFE-  
BEARERS**

**TO THE DEGREE A WOMAN IDENTIFIES HERSELF AS A LIFE-BEARER, IS THE DEGREE THAT SHE WILL FUNCTION IN SIGNIFICANCE.** IDENTITY THEFT IS A VERY PAINFUL PROCESS TO HAVE TO GO THROUGH AND REPAIR. IDENTITY HAS EVERYTHING TO DO WITH THE UNIQUENESS AND DISTINCTIVENESS OF A PERSON. IT IS LINKED TO CHARACTER AND PERSONALITY. TO HAVE EVERYTHING THAT IS UNIQUE, DISTINCT AND DEEPLY PERSONAL STOLEN FROM YOU IS PART OF IDENTITY THEFT.

Deborah is in the middle of a nation that had lost its identity and had exchanged it for a nation without a moral compass. Sin had proposed to Israel and in its proposal was the denial of the nation's identity in God. Israel accepted and in came all that is part of losing your identity.

Nations, like individuals, can lose their identity.

Israel had lost the northern part of the nation to such a level that people no longer even walked on the roads out of fear they would be killed or taken captive by Sissera. ***Losing your identity always involves losing your freedom.*** Freedom in the form of sin that has no boundaries will inevitably bring you into the greatest human bondage.

This is where the choice of Deborah's identity as mother introduces this statement:

**"AS A WOMAN, I AWAKENED MYSELF TO BRING LIFE TO THE NATION."**

**"AS A WOMAN, I AWAKENED MYSELF TO ADOPT THE PAIN OF OTHERS AS MY OWN."**

It is fairly obvious that women bring life through bearing children. The joy of bringing life into the world is one of the most powerful aspects of the identity of women as life bearers. Children are the life of a nation. ***The very future of a nation is in its children and the life that is passed down through the strength of its mothers will determine the prosperity of that nation continuing to each generation.*** What has been passed down generation to generation is currently what our society is composed of. Deborah saw that what was being passed down was causing the very light and life of the nation to spiral. Under that tree she saw case after case, day after day, life being choked out of Israel. Identity theft was occurring at an alarming rate.

Catalyzing life is an identity marker of every woman.

What if every situation you walked into, you took it upon yourself to bring life into it?

*What would that look like?*

*What does life look like that a woman brings and catalyzes?*

The end of a nation's prosperity is linked with the treatment of its life bringers. Deborah knew that the women were being taken captive, raped, and treated with great abuse. It took a life bearer to attack this death and awaken men to the battle that was before them.

As soon as the image and identity of a woman as a life-bearer comes under attack, the fabric of a nation unwinds.

***It is simple math that when you snuff out the role of life, village life ceases.***

## VILLAGE LIFE IS ABOUT:

***Kindness***

***Joy of family and children***

***Mercy extended***

***Forgiving community***

***Presence of God being at the center of community***

***Right relationships***

***Bible as the standard***

***And so much more . . .***

Deborah knows why she has to rise. Life had ceased. She states it clearly. Village life had ceased. When a national culture celebrating the role of a woman as a life-bringer exchanges it for a national culture celebrating a woman in images that do not bring life, you end up with Village life ceasing.

The heart of a life-bearer beats loudly for all those who need to be restored. Mercy is her necklace, compassion is her signet — courage is around her waist. She is a woman of force, unencumbered by social pressures. Pressured only by the Holy Spirit and the weight of her own conviction. The poor, the needy, the neglected, the disenfranchised do not escape her notice. She is proactive — an initiator. She looks to Him who put the world on its axis to solve the unsolvable — to cure the incurable.

The life-bearer is the virtuous woman of Proverbs 31. She stands so contrary to the values of this world. Her success is measured in units of love. If she is married, her husband's successes are her successes. Her children's successes are her successes. Raising up spiritual or biological children who fear the Lord is her success. All the Kingdom values acted upon, even to give a cup of water to the thirsty, bring significance and dignity.

What is unique is a women's tendency to value relationship over gain and compassion over convenience. When it comes to children, whether her own or the children that are in her community or beyond, there is a force to the love that is part of this. It will go to any measure for her children to be safe and protected, fed, loved, encouraged, and educated. That the children would walk closely with Jesus, move in His love and rest in His leading.

Catalyzing life, as a woman, is to spark these values and model them for a generation to see.

## KEYWORDS:

LIFE-BEARER

LIFE-BRINGER

VIRTUOUS WOMAN

PROVERBS 31

MERCY IS HER NECKLACE

COMPASSION IS HER SIGNET