



Girls **GONE** Wise

LEADERS GUIDE



Getting Started

Pick your Plan

There are several options for how to study the Girls Gone Wise Book. This Leader's Guide is filled with questions and ideas that you can use for leading a small group study. It provides material for 22 group sessions – an introductory session, plus one session for each chapter in the book. One chapter per week is the way I recommend that you study it.

But if a 22-week study is too long, you can choose to double-up the chapters and complete the book in 12 weeks. If you triple-up, studying 3 chapters each week, it will take you 8 weeks to complete. A quad plan (4 chapters per week) will take 5 weeks to complete. Alternately, you could simply mix and match which chapters you want to study as a group, and focus on only those. Although the chapters build on one another, they are self-contained enough to pick and choose isolated chapters for group study.

The first thing you need to do as a leader is to pick your plan. Decide how many weeks to spend on the series. Be sure to plan for any holidays that may occur during your scheduled meetings.

1. Single Chapter Plan: 22 weeks (Two 11-week modules or three 7-week modules)
2. Double Chapter Plan: 12 weeks (One 12-week or two 6-week modules)
3. Triple Chapter Plan: 8 weeks
4. Quad Chapter Plan: 5 weeks
5. Mix 'n Match Plan: Choose which points of contrast you want to study. The number of weeks is up to you

Decide if your group will be closed to include only those who sign-up and register, or open for new members to join during the course of the study.

Promote

Enlist your girlfriends to join you in studying the book. If you are studying it in the context of a church group, start to promote the study about 6 weeks ahead of time. Use traditional means of promotion such as radio, advertising on your church website or in your church bulletin, putting up posters, running a power-point slide prior to church services, etc. But also try to use innovative methods or ideas such as starting a facebook group or sending out facebook invitations.

Prepare

- Enlist the help you will need – group leaders, leadership trainees, worship leaders, administration, hostesses, etc.
- Purchase an adequate supply of books or have members purchase their own.
- Make arrangements as to where to meet (church facility, business office, recreation center, or home).
- Pray for the women who will be participating in the study.
- Review the “Tips for Bible Study Leaders” and read through the entire Girls Gone Wise Leaders Guide. Also read the book ahead of time, making notes about ideas and questions that you might use. Try to stay a week or two ahead of the rest of your group.
- Download necessary helps and resources.
- An internet connection is required for some of the suggested group activities, to view suggested YouTube videos, or Mary’s Video Book Blogs, or log-on to the Girls Gone Wise website. If you choose to do these activities, you will need a laptop computer and projector, or the ability to hook your laptop up to your TV.
- Make sure you have the necessary supplies on hand, such as extra Bibles, Girls Gone Wise Books, pencils, pens, paper, extra downloaded personal journal pages, name tags, registration sheets, and any other supplies you need.

Familiarize yourself with the study helps that are available on the Girls Gone Wise site (www.girlsgonewise.com) Members of your group will benefit greatly by using the resources on the site, and you will want to point them in that direction, so make sure you know what’s there.

- Downloadable Chapter Questions for Personal Reflection (Personal Journal), which can be hole-punched and kept in a standard binder.
- Downloadable Quizzes
- Online Challenges
- Girls Gone Wise Forum
- Video Book Blog and other Pick ‘n Click Resources
- Girls Gone Wise Blog
- And more....

The amount of time you will need to spend to prepare for your small group depends on the type of group, the number of members you have in the group, and your own personal leadership style. Some leaders need less prep time, and some need more. But the more familiar you are with the material, and the more you have prayed, studied and prepared ahead, the more successful your group will be. Plus, the more you will personally benefit and get out of it.

Remember to be creative and have fun with the book and with your small group. There are many ways to study the Girls Gone Wise book, and no matter how you do it, everybody who participates will benefit!

The remainder of the Leader's Guide outlines suggestions and sample questions for each week of a 22-week study. Tailor and adjust the suggestions and questions to match the format and length of your study. Make sure to incorporate a time for prayer into your study. I suggest that you set aside a time for prayer at the end of each session, specifically asking the Lord to help you apply what you have learned. Also, make sure to stop and pray for needs of group members as they come up during discussion.

FIRST MEETING

Preparation:

- Have copies of Girls Gone Wise to sell/give to participants
- Have a sign-in sheet to collect names, phone numbers, emails, and other contact information.
- Gather Supplies: glossy women's glamour magazines and tabloids, butcher block paper, glue sticks, felt pen, tape

Activity:

Purchase or find several glossy, grocery-store-style contemporary women's glamour magazines and tabloids. (Especially those that deal with relationship topics) Attach a large piece of butcher block paper to the wall or spread it on a large table. With a felt pen, draw a line down the center of the paper, dividing it into two columns. Write the heading "Wild" at the top of the left hand column and "Wise" on the top of the right hand column. Provide participants with glue sticks and the stack of women's magazines. Instruct them to tear out pictures and articles that encourage women to be "wild" and "wise" and paste them under the appropriate heading.

Questions:

- What did you categorize as wild behavior? Did your group have any discussion about which side things should go on?
- Society portrays wildness as desirable, glamorous behavior- in what way does this portrayal impact ordinary woman? In what way has it impacted you?
- What are some of the possible reasons why girls go wild?
- What life experiences could impact a woman's choice to engage in "wild" behavior?
- What could impact her to engage in wise behavior?
- Can you identify any "wild" tendencies in your own life that need taming?
- What do you think is needed for women to walk as wise and not wild?

- Say, “The Bible paints a portrait of a wise and a wild woman. We can’t be wise unless we know the difference between the two.” Explain the concept of the book: e.g. It studies the Wild Thing of Proverbs chapter 7, there are 20 points of contrast, etc.)
- “Ephesians 5:15 warns us to look carefully how we walk—so that we will walk as wise and not as wild. The word ‘careful’ indicates that walking in wisdom requires time and effort. “ Emphasize that society pulls on women to become wild. Wildness is our “default setting.” Living as wise and not wild takes effort and intentionality. Encourage group members that the more work they put in to reading and studying and thinking about applying the concepts, the more they will get out of the book.
- Close in prayer, asking the Lord to help you be careful to learn to be wise.

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the introductory chapter, entitled “Wild Thing”
- Log on to website (www.girlsgonewise.com). Download the Personal Journal or chapter questions for the introduction. Complete the chapter questions for the introduction.
- Instruct participants to watch the Video Blog
- Instruct participants to join your Girls Gone Wise Facebook group or that they can interact on the Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Follow-up:

- Send a “welcome” email or Facebook message to participants containing a link to the Girls Gone Wise site, reminding them of their homework for the week, telling them how glad you are that they are doing the study, and reminding them of the time for your next meeting.

WILD THING

Preparation:

- Arrange to have a laptop and projector to watch the YouTube video. Download the video ahead of time, or ensure that an internet connection will be available. Bookmark the YouTube URL so you can quickly find it.
- Have whiteboard/markers, paper/easel/felts, or some other kind of display board and markers available.

Activity:

- Show the YouTube video of the Troggs performing the 60’s song, “Wild Thing”:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z9DVJE_bhVU

Questions:

- Last week we saw that the pull of culture is towards women being wild – and this has been the case throughout history. How was the Wild Thing of the sixties different than the Wild Thing of today?
- Do you think that women nowadays are wilder than they used to be?
- Take a look at the script on page 15. (Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, Resolution) Do you agree with that this is the plot-line of the lives of most women today?
- Women who get caught in this script are trying to meet legitimate needs and desires of their hearts. What are some legitimate needs and desires that they are trying to meet? (As the group comes up with suggestions, write them down on the display board)
- So why does the attempt to meet these needs often backfire?
- What is this book's definition of a Wild Thing? (page 16)
- What is this book's definition of a Wise Thing? (page 17)
- What were the factors that contributed to Eve being tricked into becoming a Girl-Gone-Wild?
- How is our world different than Eve's? What pressures do we face that she did not face?
- What is required of us in order to withstand and push back against the draw to be wild?
- Which do you think requires more effort, being wild or wise? Why?
- Have someone read Proverbs 8:11. It says, "wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her." Refer back to the list of needs and desires. Ask, "Why is wisdom more desirable and precious than these things?"
- Emphasize that wisdom is worth pursuing. Tell them that the Bible instructs that if a woman lacks wisdom, she is to ask of God. "*If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask God, who gives generously to all without reproach, and it will be given him.*" (James 1:5, ESV) Take some time to pray and ask the Lord for wisdom.

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the first point of contrast. (Heart)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Follow-up:

- Send a follow-up email or Facebook message to participants

Contrast #1: HEART

Preparation:

- Collect and take several pairs of men's and women's shoes to display for your small group.

Activity:

- Refer to the display of shoes. Ask women to estimate how many pairs of shoes they own compared to the number of pairs their fathers/brothers/boyfriends/husbands own. Point out that women are more concerned about the appearance of their feet than men are. Introduce discussion by stating that the foot-heart connection is the first point of contrast between a wild and a wise woman.

Questions:

- Explain why the Sage told his son to take careful note of a girl's feet.
- What is the biblical meaning of a person's "walk"?
- Have you ever seen a woman swept off her feet? Describe what that looked like.
- How can a woman's infatuation negatively impact her ability to make wise choices?
- Has that ever happened to you or someone you know?
- What kind of a difference would it have made to her behavior if the Proverbs 7 woman had had Christ at the center of her heart? Why?
- Why would giving God first place in her heart help a woman make wise, godly decisions?
- Proverbs says about the wild woman that: "her ways wander, and she doesn't know it." Would you have ever applied that description to a friend or to yourself?
- What things in your life compete for that center spot in your affections?
- What would be a sign or symptom that Christ is not at the center of your heart?
- How do we keep Christ at the center? What are some things we can do if our love has grown cold?

Direction/Homework:

- Read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #2: Counsel)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Follow-up:

- Send a follow-up email or Facebook message to participants during the week to remind them of your next study.

Contrast #2: COUNSEL

Preparation:

- Find an example of an article/advertisement in a women's magazine that clearly gives bad counsel.

Activity:

- Show the article/advertisement to your small group.

Questions:

- Can you think of some false messages that the media commonly presents to women? Give me some pop answers.
- Do you agree or disagree that we become what we are exposed to?
- Do you think you have been influenced by things you have seen? Can you identify ways in which the media has affected your thinking?
- Other than TV and movies, what are some ways in which modern technology distracts us from pondering the path of life?
- A characteristic of the wild woman is that she does not ponder the way of life. The story of John & Judy that starts on page 38 demonstrates how this type of neglect can take people down the wrong path. What life pressure and circumstances contributed to their neglect?
- What could they have done differently?
- Proverbs 5:5-6 points out that when we "stop pondering the path of life" our ways will wander - we will go astray. John and Judy's story is extreme, but can you think of a time when you stopped pondering the path of life and began to drift?
- How does compromise usually happen? (Review flow charts)
- As a culture, has our tolerance level for viewing sinful images increased or decreased over the past five years? What are some examples of the way we as a culture have gone down the path of compromise?
- Ask if anyone began to keep a log of the counsel they expose themselves to, or if anyone decided to take the 30-Day media reduction challenge. Ask what they have noticed so far.
- In your estimation, what percentage of women in the church actually spend time "pondering the path of life" with regards to their womanhood? Why do you think this is?
- How do we establish standards for ourselves on what we look at and listen to?
- How do we balance that with the reality of living in this media-saturated world?

Direction/Homework:

- Read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #3: Approach)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.

- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Follow-up:

- Send a follow-up email or Facebook message to participants during the week to remind them of your next study.

Contrast #3: APPROACH

Preparation:

- Arrange to have a laptop and projector to watch the YouTube video. Download the video ahead of time, or ensure that an internet connection will be available. Bookmark the YouTube URL so you can quickly find it.

Activity:

- Show the YouTube video of Wily Coyote chasing the Roadrunner:
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OwYQsZuh2CM>

Questions:

- How would you define the word “wily”?
- Does pop culture encourage women to manipulate men? How does it do this?
- What are some ways that women manipulate men to get something from them?
- Is it easy to spot a wily woman? Why or why not?
- The Sage of Ecclesiastes complained that he had never met a woman without a personal agenda. Do you think he was socializing in the wrong circles, or is being wily the most common relationship approach for women?
- Can anyone share an example of a time when you were “wily” in trying to manipulate a man?
- In what way does being “wily” usually blow up in a woman’s face?
- Have you ever met a woman who is addicted to the thrill of the chase? Why isn’t she satisfied with her catch?
- (Review the 5 categories of manipulation.) What type of manipulation do you use the most?
- In what way is scheming and manipulation “scoffing?”
- Why do you think that wily behavior is an “abomination” to the Lord?
- Why is it difficult for women to refrain from taking a wily approach to relationships?
- How can we become less wily and more wise in our approach to relationships?

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #4. Attitude)

- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Follow-up:

- Send a follow-up email or Facebook message to participants

Contrast #4: ATTITUDE

Preparation:

- Display board/markers, sticky tack or tape
- Pictures or names of well known women on recipe cards

Activity:

- Divide your display board into two columns with the headings EXHIBIT A and EXHIBIT B
- Read the description of the two models of womanhood, EXHIBIT A & EXHIBIT B (from the chapter questions). Have pictures or names of well-known female celebrities ready on cards. Hold them up one by one. Ask if each would best qualify as an EXHIBIT A or EXHIBIT B. Stick each woman up in the appropriate column.

Questions:

- Which model of womanhood does culture uphold as the ideal, and why?
- Which model of womanhood do you find more compelling, and why?
- Can you think of an example of a time when you were specifically encouraged to be clamorous and defiant?
- How do you feel about the fact that Adam associated manhood with “strength” and womanhood with “softness”? Why do you feel that way?
- How do our bodies bear witness to this fundamental difference between men and women?
- Do you think that our emotions also reflect this distinction? Why or why not?
- Why might the thought of being “soft” be frightening to a woman? What else might prevent a woman from adopting this type of disposition?
- What does it mean to be gentle?
- What does it mean to be calm?
- What does it mean to be amenable?
- Read 1 Peter 3:3-6. How does God’s assessment of the womanly traits of gentleness, calmness, and amenability compare with the world’s assessment of the ideal disposition for women?
- Do you think that every woman, regardless of personality type, can cultivate these traits?
- What kind of disposition do you think you have been cultivating?

- How can we get to the place where we agree with God, and esteem gentleness, quietness and submissiveness as “very precious”?

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #5. Habits)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Follow-up:

- Send a follow-up email or Facebook message to participants

Contrast #5: HABITS

Preparation:

- (NOTE TO LEADER: Keep today’s discussion focused on habits and disciplines that are essential for women at all stages of life, and in all life circumstances. Do not let it deteriorate into an argument about whether married women with children should or should not work outside of the home.)
- Lawn chair or easy chair, glass of soda, plate of cookies, folded fan, exercise mat, scrub brush and pail.

Activity:

- Ask for 3 volunteers. Have one volunteer lay down on the exercise mat and do 5 sit-ups and then take the pail and bucket and give the floor 5 scrubs. Have her continue to alternate between these two tasks. Have the second volunteer lay back in the lawn chair or easy chair. Have the third volunteer serve the second volunteer cookies and soda, and fan her. Ask the group—“Which girl is having more fun?” “Which girl is doing something that will ultimately benefit her more?” “Which activity is easier?” “Which activity is better?” “Do you resent the fact that the better activity is the harder one?”
- Introduce today’s topic: “Today we are studying the fifth point of contrast between a wild and a wise woman—her habits—that is, her priorities and routines. A Girl-Gone-Wild is self-indulgent, while a Girl-Gone-Wise is Self-Disciplined.

Questions:

- Scripture says that a Wild Thing “eats the bread of idleness.” What does that mean? [leader note page 78 “idleness doesn’t mean “doing nothing”—it means “not doing what you should.”]
- How do you think the Proverbs 7 woman’s habit of constantly being out and about contributed to her being a Girl Gone Wild?

- What are some private life priorities she likely neglected?
- What did you identify as important habits and disciplines that a wise woman aims to incorporate into her life?
- Why is it important to attend to your private life first?
- What are some common rationalizations women use to justify neglecting their private lives and surroundings?
- What is the connection between the orderliness of our homes and the orderliness of our hearts?
- Does an orderly home always reflect an orderly heart?
- Do you agree that God created women with a unique bent for the home? Why or why not?
- Can you think of a circumstance or example that would illustrate that God created women with a unique homeward bent?
- Why do you think culture devalues the importance of a woman's unique connection to the home?
- What are the benefits of living a self-disciplined life?
- What are some choices that a woman might need to make in order to bring her habits in line with her desired priorities?
- Over the years, what adjustments have you made to bring your habits in line with your desired priorities?
- What areas of your private life do you have a tendency to neglect? Why do you think this is the case?
- What have you learned about personal habits and self-discipline? Can you share any ideas or suggestions about things that have worked for you?
- Summarize what you think it means to have feet that "stay at home."
- How can a woman become more self-disciplined? (leader note: see page 81- she needs to rely on the Spirit of Discipline)

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #6. Focus)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Contrast #6: FOCUS

Preparation:

- Download the pictures “Focus1” and “Focus2” from the following URLs. Print them, or save them to your computer to show on screen.

<http://www.girlsgonewise.com/handouts/focus1.jpg>

<http://www.girlsgonewise.com/handouts/focus2.jpg>

- If possible, get/borrow a hunting trap or a mouse trap

Activity:

- Show the picture of the cat and the fish (focus1.jpg). Ask: “Have you ever observed the hunting behavior of a predatory animal?” How many of you have cats? Describe the behavior of a cat when she’s on the hunt. What does she do?

Questions:

- How is the behavior of a predatory animal similar to the behavior of a Girl-Gone-Wild? What type of behaviors does a predatory woman exhibit?
- How does culture encourage women to adopt a predatory mindset?
- What is the underlying motivation of a woman who lies in wait? What does she want? What desires is she trying to fulfill?
- What’s the problem with lying in wait for a legitimate desire?
- How else might this strategy backfire on women?
- How might a girl’s lying-in-wait behavior carry over into her marriage?
- Refer to question 4 in your Personal Journal. Can someone describe a time when you went “wild” pursuing a desire? Which behaviors did you exhibit? How did lying-in-wait negatively impact you?
- Have any of you ever gone hunting? (Show the hunting trap/mouse trap.) How does a hunter’s trap work? (If you like, you could set up and spring the trap together.... but be careful!!!! Only do this if you are certain you can do it safely)
- How does this correlate to the behavior of a Girl-Gone-Wild?
- What type of bait might she use to capture what she wants?
- Why is laying a trap so dangerous to the one who lays it?
- (Show the picture of the gift and the trap - focus2.jpg) Explain how this picture describes what the Girl Gone Wild does in relationships.
- What’s wrong with giving with “strings attached”? Why is this behavior counter-productive?
- Remember the story of Vanessa? Who got more—Vanessa or her girlfriends?
- Why did Vanessa’s selfless focus get her “more” than the “me-focus” of her girlfriends?

- How might the behavior of a girl with a “what does God want me to do today” attitude differ from the behavior of a girl with a “what can I get today” attitude? How would a change in focus change her behavior?
- What are some pressures and circumstances that tempt us to lose focus?
- How can we develop more of a kingdom focus?

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #7. Appearance)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Contrast #7: APPEARANCE

Preparation:

- Collect several items of women’s clothing (borrow, or try a second hand store) – a spandex-type t-shirt, a button-up shirt, a mini-skirt, fishnet stockings, workout tights, shorts, 5-inch spike high heels, a bikini, etc.- try to find items of clothing that might be controversial.

Activity:

- Hold up the articles of clothing one by one. Ask: “Is this piece of clothing appropriate or inappropriate for a godly woman to wear?” (The point is to generate discussion, and to help group members see that it’s impossible to come up with a hard and fast set of rules. If someone says “no,” to a particular item of clothing, challenge the group to think of an environment/circumstance in which it might be appropriate to wear that piece of clothing—for instance, for the short skirt, ask, “What if she’s performing in a figure skating competition?” or “What if she’s 3 years old?” “What if she’s in a gymnastics competition?” “Is there any place or environment in which this might be appropriate to wear?”)

Questions:

- What are some examples of hard-and-fast dress-code rules that some Christians promote for women?
- What rules did your parents have about what you could and couldn’t wear? Did you ever disagree with them?
- What were you taught about why girls should or should not cover up their bodies?
- What does it mean to dress “as a prostitute”?
- Do you think the appearance of a prostitute differs from culture to culture and time-period to time-period? Explain.
- Why do you think the Bible doesn’t present a set of hard and fast rules about what women should and shouldn’t wear?

- Which quote did you pick that you think best reflects the reason behind clothing?
- So what's the problem with nudity?
- What does our clothing bear witness to?
- How might the concept that clothing is meant to display deep and profound spiritual truths about the gospel change the way you dress?
- If a woman's clothing falls within the guidelines set by the Christian modesty police, does that necessarily mean that she is honoring God in the way she dresses? How might she still be dishonoring Him?
- Have you ever been tempted to think that dressing frumpy and out-of-style is more holy than dressing in a stylish and attractive way?
- Refer to question 8 in your Personal Journal, or to the second paragraph on page 102 in the Girls Gone Wise book. Which pitfalls about the practical question of what and what not to wear have tripped you up?
- Let's review the three standards that the Bible presents for the way women should dress: ("Is it becoming?" "Is it decent?" and "Is it moderate?" page 103) Which of these standards did you find the most helpful and why?
- How can we make sure that the way we dress displays Christ and does not put our own flesh on display? (focus on internal... spiritual adornment is of primary importance.... a right heart will lead to the right appearance)

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #8. Body Language)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Contrast #8: BODY LANGUAGE

Preparation:

- Download or link to the video book blog for Point of Contrast #8. URL:

Activity:

- Watch the first few minutes of the book blog video-to the end of the instruction on how to flirt. Discuss what the group thinks about the pointers. (Draw attention to that fact that flirtatious body language is intentional and manipulative. It constitutes a "wily" and "predatory" approach.)

Questions:

- What does popular culture teach us about flirty body language?
- Have you ever encountered any instruction about how to use body language “techniques” to attract a man? Where did this instruction come from? (magazine? TV? Internet? Girlfriend?) What were some of the techniques advocated? Did the techniques help you attract the right kind of attention?
- Do you think flirtatious body language is intentional or unintentional?
- How easy is it to spot a woman who is being a flirt?
- What do women who employ this strategy hope to accomplish by it?
- What’s the problem with being a flirt?
- Can someone find the definition of wanton? (page 115) Give examples of what behaviors would classify as being “wanton.”
- Why does suggestive body language (outside of marriage) displease God?
- Read Matthew 5:28. If Jesus had been addressing a group of women in this talk, what do you think He may have said to them about provocative body language?
- What is sensuality?
- How does the Bible’s perspective on sensuality differ from the world’s perspective?
- What if a girl is just teasing a guy with her flirtatious behavior, and doesn’t really intend on sleeping with him? Is that okay? Why or why not?
- Have you seen or heard people in Christian circles “hint” at sexual immorality or impurity? In what way? Describe what happened. (no names please) How did everyone respond?
- What’s the difference between body language that is holy and body language that is unholy?
- What do you think about Mary’s challenge to married women to up their flirtatious behavior with their husbands?
- How different is the Bible’s portrayal of the ideal for women than culture’s ideal?
- Do you think that being wise and not wild will put you at a disadvantage in your relationships with men? Why or why not?
- What does Proverbs 31:30 uphold as the antidote to deceitful charms?
- How would this attitude counteract the pull to manipulatively “turn on the charm”?

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #9. Roles)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Contrast #9: ROLES

Preparation:

- (NOTE TO LEADER: Keep today's discussion focused on general broad principles about manhood and womanhood rather than the specific implication/application of these principles to marriage. For instance, don't get caught up about what submission in marriage looks like. Try to keep the discussion on a level that applies to all women - whether they are married or not.)

Activity:

- Tell women to extend their arms with palms up. Ask them what they notice about the angle of their elbows. (Their lower arms veer away 10 to 20 degrees from the line of their upper arms) Tell them that that's their "carrying angle." It's the reason women are able to hold and nurse a baby, but have so much trouble throwing a football. Tell them to compare the angle of their arms with the angle of a man's arm. They will notice that a man's arm is straight. Men don't have a carrying angle. That's why men can throw footballs, but look awkward holding babies. That's just one small example of the thousands of innate differences between male and female.

Questions:

- Do you think the differences between men and women extend beyond the mere physical ones?
- Our text in Proverbs reveals that a Girl-Gone-Wild "seizes" a man and compels him to "follow her." How common is this pattern in contemporary male-female relationships?
- Does it matter who "wears the pants"? Why or why not?
- Do you think we completely understand the differences between male and female?
- If God created us, then it stands to reason that He knows and understands the differences. And the best place for us to learn about them is by studying what manhood and womanhood looked like at the time of Creation, before sin spoiled everything: Can someone explain the significance of the position of the firstborn? Why do you think that the Lord created man (and not woman) first?
- How do we know that Adam's position of firstborn has implications for men today?
- Why do you think that our culture reacts negatively to the idea of differing roles and responsibilities for male and female?
- Describe an example or circumstance you've witnessed that illustrates that men have an innate "bent" to provide for and protect.
- How did you answer question 5 in your Personal Journal? What was the flaw in the line of reasoning that demanded that women needed to be in the workforce in the same numbers and same way as men?
- Would you agree that men base their identity more on their jobs and women more on their relationships? How does the creation story explain/account for this difference?
- What does it mean that woman was created "for" man? What does it NOT mean?

- Does being created as a “helper” indicate that a female has a lesser status than a male? Why or why not?
- According to page 130 in the book, what is the primary thing the woman was created to “help” man to do? (magnify the glory of God and the gospel story)
- In your opinion, would man be able to adequately do this without woman?
- The Lord created woman with a bent to be amenable, relational, and receptive. He created man with a bent to initiate, provide and protect. Is an inclination to be amenable more or less valuable than an inclination to initiate? Why?
- How do the physical bodies of men and women reflect the fact that God created men with a bent to initiate, provide and protect, and women with a bent to respond, relate, and receive?
- How has sin affected the God-given bent of each gender?
- What is the solution to this problem?
- Does your heart resonate and agree with God that His creation of male and female is “very good”? Do you delight in His design for manhood and womanhood?
- How did you complete the statement in question 9 in your personal Journals? What is needed in order for you to more whole-heartedly affirm the goodness of God’s created design for male and female? What do you think you need?

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #10. Sexual Conduct)
- This week, ask some non-Christians you know the question: “Why did God create sex?” Ask this same question of some Christian friends. We’ll discuss their responses and the real reason God created sex next week.
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Contrast #10: SEXUAL CONDUCT

Preparation:

- Set up display board & markers

Activity:

- Ask women to identify some examples of some contemporary sex scandals.

Questions:

- Why do you think that marital infidelity is so offensive—even to those who don’t follow Christ?

- At the top of the display board, write the question: “Why did God create sex?” Ask what kind of answers group members heard when they asked the question of their friends. How would the average person on the street answer that question? Was there a substantial difference between the answers of believers and non-believers? What can you conclude from this?
- Which quote from the book did you choose that you think best explains why God created sex? (See question 3 in your Personal Journals)
- In what way does the reason God created sex relate to His expectations for our sexual conduct?
- What is the “story” we tell with our sexual conduct?
- Why do you think there will be no sex in heaven? Will we feel deprived?
- Compare the way God expects a married woman to tell the story versus the way He expects a single woman to tell it. Does one “tell” the story better than the other?
- Why is the question “how far is too far?” the wrong question for single women to ask? What would be a better question? (e.g. “How well is my sexual conduct telling the story of the gospel?) What question ought a married woman be asking herself about her sex life?
- Given the biblical meaning of sex, why is it wrong for a man and woman who are not married to one another to be physically intimate?
- Explain why our sexual conduct is so important to the Lord.
- What were the five guidelines Paul gave the new believers in Thessalonica for their sexual conduct? (see page 147) Can someone give me a one or two sentence summary of the first guideline? The second? The third? The fourth? The fifth?
- Why is wrongful sexual conduct such a serious sin?
- Can someone share how you felt doing the report-card exercise? (question 7 Personal Journal)
- How does covering up our mark with wite-out reflect what Jesus does for us?
- Has reading this chapter caused you to think differently about sex? How so? Do you think it will affect your sexual conduct?

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #11. Boundaries)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- You will want to visit the Girls Gone Wise website to download the Personal Hedges Worksheet.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Contrast #11: BOUNDARIES

Preparation:

- Buy some “Do Not Enter” plastic boundary tape (try a landscaping, construction, or utility supply company)
- Put the tape up so that group members are directed where to walk, and so that they can clearly see that there are areas and/or items in the room that are off bounds.

Activity:

- Discuss the concept of boundaries. Ask: How does this boundary tape help you from going places and touching things that are off limits?

Questions:

- What is the book’s definition of a hedge? (page 157) What does a hedge do?
- How does minding boundaries protect us from harm?
- Is crossing a boundary “sin”? Refer to the story of Sarah on page 154. Did she sin when she exchanged emails, had lunch, and worked alone in the back room with her co-worker?
- How does a lack of boundaries increase the likelihood that a girl will wander down the wrong path into sin? How does it increase the likelihood that someone might sin against her?
- Describe a time when failing to heed boundaries exposed you to a potentially dangerous or compromising situation.
- How is a failure to observe boundaries similar to leaving a laptop in an unlocked car?
- What are some instances of how young Christian women put themselves in potentially compromising situations? What have you noticed that they often do?
- What are some reasons why women fail to establish and observe hedges that would minimize the risk of sin? (... they don’t think anything bad will happen to them... they think they’re strong enough to handle it) Why are some of these ways of thinking dangerous?
- Read Proverbs 22:3 and Proverbs 14:16. What do these verses teach about boundaries?
- When it comes to boundaries, would you categorize yourself as cautious or as reckless and careless? Why?
- What boundaries did the Wild Thing of Proverbs 7 fail to observe?
- Do you think we can come up with a hard and fast list of boundaries that are appropriate for all women and all circumstances? Why or why not?
- Why might one woman legitimately put up a hedge in a different place than another woman?
- How many of you had a chance to complete the Personal Boundary Worksheet? How did you feel about that exercise? Was it helpful? Difficult? Had you ever taken the time before to think through and establish some personal boundaries?
- Can you share a time when you have had to clearly state and abide by a boundary someone was pressuring you to cross?

- Let's review the 10 types of Hedges together. For each category, tell if there were any suggestions you particularly liked or disliked, if you ever saw a woman get herself into trouble because she didn't observe that boundary, if you thought of any other specific hedges for that category, or if you have any other comments about it. (Review & Discuss the ten categories. Remember to promote an attitude of grace and respect – acknowledge that women have the freedom to put up hedges in different spots.)
- How will exercising discretion and observing hedges help you in your relationships?
- Leader—close by citing the promise that “Discretion will watch over you and understanding will guard you, delivering you from the way of evil.” (Proverbs 2:11-12)

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #12. Authenticity)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Contrast #12: AUTHENTICITY

Preparation:

- Purchase and download the song “Two-Faced Woman” by K.T. Sullivan from the album, “Ladies of the Silver Screen.” (From itunes or elsewhere)

Activity:

- Play the song “Two-Faced Woman.” Instruct the women to listen to the lyrics and take note of phrases that describe the nature of a two-faced woman.

I can't help being a two-faced woman
 A little bit of boldness
 A little bit of sweetness
 A little bit of coldness
 A little bit of heatness

Don't fall in love with a two-faced woman
 Givin' you a warnin'
 I'll leave you in the mornin'
 Got another lover under cover
I'm like a weather vane
That goes with the breeze
 My disposition makes me do as I please
 That's why they call me a two-faced woman

A little bit of day
And a little bit of night
A little bit of sad
And a little bit of bright
A little bit of goodness
A little bit of badness
A little bit of wrong and right.

I don't know why they scold me
For doing what I'm trying not to do
No man can ever hold me
And yet I never mean to be untrue
Someday I will wake up
Find out what is wrong
With my dual make-up
I don't belong. ... They call me two-faced woman.

Questions:

- What were some phrases in the song that described the nature of a two-faced woman?
- Do you remember where the root of the word hypocrite comes from? (page 173)
- How does the image of a masked actor accurately reflect what a hypocrite is?
- The Girls Gone Wise book points out 7 signs of hypocrisy. The first is contradiction. What contradiction was evident in the life of the Proverbs 7 woman? What two faces did she show that day and to whom did she show them?
- What do you think the people at church thought about this woman? Which face did she show to them? Do you think they knew about her other face?
- How does a wild, two-faced woman manage to keep the contradiction in her life hidden?
- The second sign of hypocrisy is self-indulgence. A two-faced woman is a lover of pleasure rather than a lover of God. Why do you think the Proverbs 7 woman went to church and prayed and fulfilled her vow to God? (note: because she thought that her religious behavior & prayers would help her get what she wanted.)
- Do you ever pray and expect God to give you what you want, even if it goes against what He wants?
- A third sign of hypocrisy is focus on externals. Two-faced women want others to think that they are very spiritual and have enviable morals. They are very concerned about outward appearances—how they look to others and what people think about them. Do you think this is a common problem for women?
- Why do women fear being “found out” for who they really are? Do you ever feel this fear?
- How do Wild Things try to cultivate their “good girl” image?

- The fourth sign of hypocrisy is partial obedience. A two-faced woman is very selective about which parts of the Bible she chooses to obey. Why do you think she chooses to obey parts of the Bible? Why doesn't she just completely reject it?
- Describe a time when you encountered a Bible command that you were tempted to reject. Why were you tempted to reject it?
- The fifth sign of two-facedness is rationalization. The Sage Father said this about the Wild Thing: "This is the way of an adulteress; she eats and wipes her mouth and says, 'I have done no wrong.'" (Proverbs 30:20) What are some common rationalizations that women use to justify their sinful behavior?
- Can you think of an instance when you rationalized sin?
- The sixth sign of hypocrisy is contempt. Two-faced women are highly critical of the shortcomings of others. Why do you think this is the case?
- Is contempt an attitude that you struggle with?
- There was a super villain called "Two-face" in the classic D.C. Comics Batman series. He becomes the crime boss Two-Face after sulfuric acid hideously disfigures the left side of his face. Two-Face does not consistently do evil. Every time he contemplates a crime, he flips his two-headed coin. If the coin lands unmarred side up, he refrains from evil and resigns himself to doing good. He turns his good face to the world. If it lands defaced side up, he boldly goes ahead and commits the crime. How does a Wild Thing decide which of her two faces to show?
- Chameleon-Like conduct is the seventh sign of hypocrisy. Chameleons change color depending on which environment they are in. Describe a situation in which you observed someone exhibit chameleon-like conduct.
- In what environments are you tempted to act like a chameleon-and take on the color of the people surrounding you?
- How did you do on the Authenticity test in your personal journal? Can you see signs of hypocrisy in your life?
- The problem is not that we fight against hypocrisy in our lives—but when we don't. All of us have a long way to go when it comes to true authenticity. James says that the way to combat double-mindedness is to draw near to God, confess it, and ask for His help to purify our hearts. Let's take some time right now to do that. (Spend some time in prayer)

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #13. Neediness)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Contrast #13: NEEDINESS

Preparation:

- Find and download or link to the YouTube Snow White video/song at this URL:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=L_z4t_aTK2c

Activity:

- Watch the You Tube Movie (Watch it near the end of the session—see questions below)

Questions:

- What are some symptoms of CGS (clingy girlfriend syndrome) that you've observed in friends?
- What's the difference between a woman who would simply like to have a relationship with a man, and one who is desperate for one?
- What do you think a needy woman is looking to get from a man?
- Are these legitimate desires?
- Are all women equally needy of these things?
- Why do some women feel a sense of their neediness more acutely than others. What are some life circumstances or experiences that might contribute to her sense of neediness?
- Martin Luther said, "Whatever your heart clings to and confides in, that is really your god." If this is the case, what do most women uphold as "god"—to what do they turn to satisfy the thirst they feel in their hearts.
- Have you ever thought that if only you would meet that "someone" or get that "something" your heart's desire would be satisfied?
- Why will no earthly relationship ever completely quench a woman's thirst?
- Turn to page 185 in the Girls Gone Wise book. Let's read through the list that describes the way a Wild Thing looks for love. I'm going to read each line, and I want you to mark down 0 to 3 stars beside that line, to indicate to what extent the statement describes you. Draw 0 stars if it doesn't describe you at all, and 3 stars if it accurately describes you. If you feel comfortable, call out how many stars you are drawing, and why.
 - She forgets or neglects her relationship with God
 - She thinks that a relationship with a man will (or ought to) meet her emotional needs
 - Her heart feels lonely and needy
 - She hacks and digs at a relationship and makes demands of her man to get him to fill her perceived need
 - She demands that a relationship provide her with something it cannot possibly provide
 - Her relationship repeatedly disappoints her
 - She feels anxious and afraid when the relationship falters
 - Her heart slowly shrivels and dries up—"like a shrub in the desert."
 - Her life is spiritually barren and unproductive

(you may need to stop and pray for a group member if this exercise reveals that she is feeling very hurt and needy—Turn to the list on page 186 and personalize it as a “prayer list” to ask the Lord to help her—and the others in the group— look for love the wise way.)

- Why do you think the Lord gave us such a deep desire for romance? (To draw and point us to a relationship with Him)
- How did you answer question 7 in your personal journal...how did you describe what Sehnsucht soul-longing felt like to you.
- The soul-longing that cannot be met by anyone or anything on earth will not be fully satisfied until we see Jesus face to face. Love, romance, desire, and the deepest longings of our souls all point to a relationship with Jesus, who is the Prince of our dreams. While you watch this video, I want you to keep in mind that Jesus is the Prince of our dreams and that someday we will live happily ever after with Him. (Watch the first part of the Snow White Video, to the end of Streisand’s song.)
- What were your thoughts as you watched the video?
- How can we fight against the pull to depend on relationships to provide us what only the Lord can provide?
- (Close in prayer)

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #14. Possessions)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Contrast #14: POSSESSIONS

Preparation:

- Preview and choose one of the following YouTube songs/videos:
 - Accessory: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rmzRSwd0Q8Y>
 - Shopaholic by Verbz: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Gq41aKatfVI>
 - Shopaholic Movie Trailer: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jml_MOEPA-s

Activity:

- Choose one of the above YouTube songs/videos to introduce the topic of money and possessions

Questions:

- Why do women love to shop? Have you ever witnessed any ugly shopping behavior from women?
- The young woman of Proverbs 7 is a shopaholic. When she meets up with the guy, she tries to impress him with her designer labels. Is there anything wrong with designer labels? Why or why not?
- What does her flaunting of designer brands tell us about this woman?
- The Wild Thing's sister, Lady Babylon, was also a greedy consumer. She was a shopaholic. The Bible informs us that she loved indulging in the "power of luxurious living." What kind of "power" does luxurious living offer?
- Why is this power attractive? Why do "delicacies" and "splendors" allure us?
- How attracted are you to the power of luxurious living? Where did you put a mark on the scale in your personal journal? (question 2) Explain why.
- How would your lifestyle change if you won the lottery and had an unlimited amount of money? What would you buy for yourself? How would you spend your time?
- Look over how you answered question 3. What do your answers reveal about your attitude toward money?
- What did the rich man's inability to give up all his money to follow Jesus reveal about him?
- Have you ever faced a situation where the Lord asked you to give up your money or possessions? Describe this situation. Was it difficult for you?
- Identify some ways in which some Christians have the wrong perspective about money.
- Let's review the 5 lessons about money. How did you summarize the lesson about...
 - Ownership
 - Investment
 - Responsibility
 - Valuation
 - Devotion
- Did you think of practical ways you could put the lessons into practice?

- How would your life change if you truly believed these 5 things about money?
- What type of behavior would you expect to see in someone who “treasures the riches of the Kingdom more than the riches of the world?”
- If you take a look at your spending habits, can you honestly say that you treasure the riches of the Kingdom more than the riches of the world? What would need to happen in order for you to treasure the Kingdom more?
- Other than money, what are your most precious resources?
- How can you invest yourself and your resources for eternity?

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #15. Entitlement)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Follow-up:

- It’s always a good idea to contact the women in your group between sessions. Give them a call, or contact them by facebook or email. Encourage them by sharing something you learned this week.

Contrast #15: ENTITLEMENT

Preparation:

- Display board & markers
- Picture of book cover downloaded from <http://www.girlsgonewise.com/handouts/entitlement1.jpg>

Activity:

- At the top of the display board, write down the title, “I deserve...” Ask group members to help you come with a list of what pop culture has taught them they deserve.
- (Show the picture of the book cover.) Psychology Professor, Dr. Jean Twenge, has coined a term for the post gen-X generation, those who were born in the 80’s and 90’s. She calls them “Generation Me.” A Generation Me woman believes that her own needs should come first. She has never known a world that puts duty before self. Dr. Twenge has written a book: *“Generation Me: Why Today’s Young Americans are More Confident, Assertive, Entitled—and More Miserable Than Ever Before.”* She cites research to support the assumption that the up-and-coming generation of women is plagued with a dangerous sense of entitlement.

Questions:

- Do you agree with Twenge's "Me Generation" label? Why or why not?
- What do you think happens when a woman focuses on her rights rather than her responsibilities?
- If you feel entitled to the things on the list (display board), and don't get them, how will you feel? How might you react?
- Does an attitude of entitlement contribute to the happiness of women? Why or why not?
- Why would a more confident, assertive, entitled young woman be more miserable than ever before?
- Explain what you think Scripture means when it says that "She who is self-indulgent is dead even while she lives." (1 Timothy 5:6)
- The Proverbs 7 woman felt entitled to delight herself with love. How does her attitude compare to the attitude of young Christian women today?
- How does an attitude of entitlement differ from the attitude of Christ? (See Philippians 2:3-8.)
- Why was Christ willing to self-sacrifice? (For the joy set before Him...See Hebrews 12:2-3)
- Can you think of a time when you said "no" to a lesser immediate reward for the sake of a greater future reward?
- How does keeping our eyes on a positive future reward help us forfeit immediate gratification? (e.g. Why would a woman get up at 5 am to exercise? Why would she say no to the pleasure of eating a chocolate brownie?)
- What is it that enabled the women who were tortured and died for Christ to suffer so gladly?
- What's the connection between a woman's willingness to suffer and deny self and her ability to overcome sin?
- Do you think pleasure and comfort is a higher priority for you than seeking Christ?
- What is it that would make you willing to live a life of self-sacrifice?

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #16. Reliability)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Contrast #16: RELIABILITY

Preparation:

- Download or link to the YouTube movie trailer about Hachi
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FaS37E3gKOU>

Activity:

- Watch the movie trailer. Review the story of Hachi. Talk about why the story is so compelling to people.

Questions:

- The story of Hachi is compelling primarily because it is a story of faithfulness. People yearn for relationships that are as loyal, reliable and trustworthy. The Proverbs 7 woman was unfaithful. She was unreliable. When her husband went out of town, she cheated on him. She didn't keep her covenant promise. What exactly is a covenant?
- What are the various types of relationships that involve a covenant?
- How is faithfulness the glue that holds a covenant together?
- What happens if one party is unfaithful to the covenant? (the relationship breaks down)
- Why can we count on God to be faithful to His covenant?
- If we are unfaithful, does God pull out of his end of the deal? Is He ever unfaithful to us? Does our "cheating" on Him cause Him to walk out on us?
- Why does God want us to be faithful to our commitments? (Our faithfulness puts the character of God on display)
- The Sage tells us that the Wild Woman "forsakes the companion of her youth and forgets the covenant of her God." (Proverbs 2:17) What are some possible circumstances may have caused her to forsake the man she once loved?
- When she was unfaithful to her husband, with whom did she break covenant? (him, the faith community, the Lord)
- Marriage is unique in that it is a covenant of God—"with a portion of His Spirit" in the union. Why is unfaithfulness to the covenant of marriage particularly reprehensible to the Lord?
- What does the marriage covenant represent?
- What truths is it supposed to teach us about God?
- What do we "say" by our actions when we are unfaithful to our covenants? What do our actions testify about the covenant of God?
- The Jews of Jesus' day thought that if they didn't swear a covenant before God, that they weren't bound to keep their word. What did Jesus think about that?
- Why is faithfulness in little things important?
- If a married couple were faithful in all the little things, what's the likelihood that they would ever cheat on one another? Explain why.

- Describe a time when someone close to you broke a promise they made to you. How did you feel? How did it affect your thoughts and feeling towards that person?
- Take a look at the list on question 6 in your personal journals. Have you ever been unfaithful to marriage in any of these little ways?
- How can you be more faithful in your key relationships in all the little things?
- Let's take some time to pray and confess the ways in which we have failed to be faithful, and to delight in the fact that God is faithful, even when we are not. Let's pray and ask for His help, so that our faithfulness to others may become more and more like His faithfulness to us.

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #17. Speech)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Contrast #17: SPEECH

Preparation:

- Download and print some extra Conversation Peace Quizzes from the website.
- Download the video or link to the Difference between men & women's brains: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xxtUH_bHBxs

Activity:

- Watch the YouTube Video about the difference between men's and women's brains. (5 mins)

Questions:

- Do you agree with Mark Gunger? What are some differences you've noticed between the way men and women think and communicate?
- Given the difference, why is it easy for men to be overwhelmed by the way women speak?
- When her provocative appearance, body language, kiss, and scintillating invitation weren't enough to bag the young man, the Wild Thing pulled out all the stops and bombarded him with excessive, smooth and seductive talk. How did Samson react when Delilah reverted to this tactic? (Judges 16:16-17)
- Besides giving in, how else might a man react to a woman who seeks to manipulate him with excessive and slippery speech? (-- shut down and not listen)
- How do you think the young man will feel toward the woman after he figures out that she talked him into doing something that he knew was wrong, and was hesitant to do?
- According to the Bible, what's the problem with talking excessively? (sin is not absent)
- Why else should women exercise restraint—especially when communicating with men?

- Explain what is meant by the term “smooth talk”... When women do it, it’s usually called sweet talk.
- How does sweet talk work? (involves flattery)
- Why is the person being sweet talked often oblivious to the fact he is being manipulated?
- Describe a time when you used sweet talk to butter someone up to get your way. Why did you use that approach?
- Why do you think the Bible does not view this type of talk in a positive light?
- Read Psalm 12:2-4. What’s the underlying attitude behind insincere conniving speech? (desire to control-see page 223)
- How does talk that is sweet as honey end up being as bitter as wormwood?
- What is guile? (see page 224)
- 1 Peter 3:10 says, “For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile” How does refraining from guile help us love life and see good days?
- In what way does pop culture encourage women to sin with our speech?
- Excessive, duplicitous and manipulative speech may get you what you want, but in the end, will it benefit your relationship? Why or why not?
- Did you do the Conversation Peace Quiz from the Girls Gone Wise website? (distribute copies to women who didn’t) In what three main areas does your speech need improvement?
- Is what you learned this week going to change the way you talk to men? In what way?
- Close in prayer, asking the Lord to help your speech be restrained, sincere, and without guile.

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #18. Influence)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Contrast #18: INFLUENCE

Preparation:

- Save a link to the URL <https://www.tonyrobbins.com/products/business-finances/mastering-influence.php>

Activity:

- Display the URL of Anthony Robbins's "Mastering Influence" course. Ask, does anyone know who Anthony Robbins is? He's a best-selling author, motivational speaker, and life coach—a big tall guy with way too many teeth—who teaches people how to be influencers. He instructs people how to unleash their "unlimited personal power" to influence others to buy the product or idea the influencer is selling. The art of persuasion is the primary tool that Tony credits for his own personal success. He believes that influence is the single most important skill you can master in order to shape your destiny.

Questions:

- In your own words, how would you define influence?
- What words in Proverbs 7:21-23 indicate that the Wild Thing exerted an influence on the young man.
- Do you remember the biblical meaning of the words "persuades" and "compels"? Turn to page 228 in the Girls Gone Wise book. Can someone summarize what is meant by the Hebrew word that is translated "persuades?" How about the one that is translated "compels"?
- How was the Wild Thing a negative influence on the young man?
- How can you tell when someone is exerting a negative influence? What are some symptoms?
- How can you tell if a guy and girl are exerting a negative influence on one another? How can you tell if they are exerting a positive influence on one another?
- Describe a time when you watch a friend get messed up due to associating with bad company... or a time when friends negatively influenced you.
- Do you agree that "bad company ruins good morals"? Why or why not.
- What does the Bible mean when it advises us to be cautious in friendship?
- What types of things ought we to be cautious of? What should we look for in our friends?
- Which friendship has the most potential for exerting negative influence on a Christian—friendship with a lukewarm Christian, or friendship with someone who doesn't know Christ?
- What are some common rationalizations that women use to justify keeping the wrong company?
- Why does the Bible call a person with an "it won't happen to me" attitude "a root bearing poisonous and bitter fruit"?
- Describe a time when someone had a positive influence on you. What was it about her that impacted you positively? In what way did she influence you?

- Why are you “known by the company you keep”? What does the behavior and character of your close friends say about you?
- We need to befriend those who don’t know Jesus in order to have a positive influence on them, but at the same time, need to ensure that they aren’t having a negative influence on us. How do we do this?
- Why are women such powerful influencers?
- What are the four suggestions in the Girls Gone Wise book about how to exert positive influence? (See page 233-235) – Briefly summarize each suggestion:
 - Seek out people who will positively influence you
 - Influence others through strength of character
 - Be judicious with your words
 - Rely on the Lord to effect change
- Which of these four suggestions is most challenging for you, and why?
- How can we exert influence without being manipulative?
- What do you need to do to be more wise and less wild when it comes to the influence you accept and exert in your life?

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #19. Sustainability)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Contrast #19: SUSTAINABILITY

Preparation:

- (Note: Since this session touches on the matter of broken relationships, the issues raised can be very painful. Remain extremely sensitive to the needs of your group, and the need to approach sin with truth, but with much grace. Also remain sensitive to those who need to be ministered to in prayer. You may want to think through follow-up options for women who are caught in the revolving door pattern and want to break free.)

Activity:

- Ask your group... what do you think the world record is for the highest number of monogamous marriages in a lifetime?
- It’s 29 for a man and 24 for a woman... and the man and woman who both hold the record were once married to one another. (Read the following newspaper article):

Mrs Wolfe, 68, is included in the Guinness Book of World Records for the dubious honour of being wed more times than anyone else alive. She has said that she is "addicted to the romance" of getting married.

Born Linda Lou Taylor, the American first married in 1957 aged 16, to a 31-year-old called George Scott. The union lasted for seven years, the longest and happiest of any of her marriages. Since then things have tended to go downhill.

Over the subsequent decades she married a one-eyed convict, a preacher, barmen, plumbers and musicians. Two turned out to be homosexual, two were homeless and one beat her. Another put a padlock on her fridge. One marriage lasted just 36 hours because "the love wasn't there".

But Linda, from Indiana, once married the same man, Jack Gourley, three times. She has had seven children by her different husbands and been a stepmother to many more.

Her last marriage, a decade ago, was a publicity stunt. It was to Glynn Wolfe, who in taking Linda as his bride meant he was the world's most married man, at 29 times. He died a year later aged 88.

Consequently she said that she was "on the lookout for number 24". She told The Sun: "It's been years since I walked down the aisle. I miss it." The serial bride, who now lives in a retirement home, said she had never cheated on a husband. She said if she had her life over again she would "never, ever" marry so many men.

(<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/newstoppers/howaboutthat/4796811/Grandmother-is-most-married-woman-after-tying-the-knot-23-times.html>)

Questions:

- What do you think the Guinness World Record might be if we changed the category from the number of times a woman was married, to the number of times a woman was involved in a "committed" sexual relationship? How high might the number go?
- Does what you have witnessed in the lives of your friends, co-workers, and relatives confirm that serial monogamy—the repeated leaping from one sexually monogamous relationship to another—has become the most popular relationship trend of this generation?
- Do you think that women who have a succession of intense "committed" relationships feel that they are being promiscuous? Why or why not?
- Do women enter into a sexually monogamous relationship with an expectation that the relationship will fail?
- Do you think that each failed relationship increases or decreases the chance that a woman will be successful in her next relationship? Why?

- Why do you think women get caught in the revolving door of failed relationships?
- How is a woman's ability to sustain a relationship related to her ability to heed God's counsel on relationships?
- What's the connection between sustainability and "respect" — respect for the Lord, respect for herself, and respect for men?
- Do you think that most Christian women intentionally disrespect God?
- What life circumstances and experiences might make it more difficult for a woman to respect God's pattern and approach to male-female relationships?
- If a woman has been wounded by life, and has gone through a series of failed relationships, what might she need in order to be willing and able to do things God's way? Is meeting the "right guy" the answer to stop the revolving door pattern?
- Do you think that a wounded heart increases a woman's self centeredness? Does it increase her propensity to "use" men or cling to them in neediness? Why or why not?
- How does a woman's neediness set her up for relationship failure?
- How does it contribute to her "victimizing" (using and discarding) men?
- What are some ways in which our culture disrespects men?
- How has this disrespect spilled over into the Christian community?
- Have you ever noticed a disrespectful attitude in your spirit?
- How is disrespect for men a sign of disrespect for God?
- What kind of an impact do you think it would have on the success and sustainability of relationships if women were to demonstrate the proper respect for God, themselves, and others?
- Do you need more respect for the Lord? For men? Or for who He created you to be? In what area do you need to demonstrate more respect?
- Draw attention to the final comment in the personal journal on page 43. Ask if anyone has been caught in the door of revolving relationships and wants prayer to start to break free of that destructive pattern. (Note that you may need to follow up with these women, because breaking free of this type of destructive relationship pattern is often a lengthy journey) Ask also, if there is anyone who senses the need to repent, or to grow in the area of respect.

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, read the next point of contrast. (Contrast #20. Teachability)
- Complete the corresponding chapter questions.
- Watch the corresponding Video Blog.
- Interact/comment/discuss on Facebook Group or Girls Gone Wise Forum.

Contrast #20: TEACHABILITY

Preparation:

Questions:

- Turn to the chart on pages 253 and 254. It outlines the characteristics of three types of foolish people who turn their backs on God’s invitation to become wise. They represent a continuum of teachability, from someone who might be open to instruction, to someone who is totally closed and resistant to it. A Wild Thing will fall somewhere along this continuum. She will be like Simple Sally, Foolish Fran, or Scoffing Sue.
- Which profile best fits the Proverbs 7 woman—Lady Wise, Simple Sally, Foolish Fran, or Scoffing Sue? Which profile best fits her male friend?
- Why is Simple Sally uninformed?
- What will happen to her if she remains uninformed?
- What prevents Simple Sally from understanding or grasping the consequences of her actions?
- What will shake Simple Sally out of her naivety?
- What does Simple Sally need to do to stop from becoming a Foolish Fran?
- Do you think that a woman can remain a Simple Sally her whole life?
- Can you think of a circumstance in which you got into trouble because you were naive—like Simple Sally?
- How prevalent is the Foolish Fran profile among Christians?
- Do you think it’s more likely that a woman raised in the church will be a Simple Sally or Foolish Fran? Why?
- Why does Foolish Fran not do what she knows she should do?
- What are some possible reasons why Foolish Fran fails to take sin seriously?
- Why do you think Foolish Fran isn’t concerned about putting her knowledge into practice?
- How does Foolish Fran react to people who try to teach or correct her?
- Do you think Fran’s foolishness will inevitably lead to more foolishness? Why or why not?
- What normally needs to happen to Foolish Fran to help her realize that she doesn’t have it as together as she thinks she does?
- Was there a time in your life when you were behaving like Foolish Fran, and the Lord brought you to a crisis point? Can you share what happened?
- What’s so dangerous about Foolish Fran’s attitude and behavior?
- Does Foolish Fran have a desire to change?
- How do Foolish Frans turn into Scoffing Sues?
- Why are there not many Scoffing Sues in the church?
- What is the core attitude of a Scoffing Sue?
- Is Scoffing Sue able to change?
- Why does telling Scoffing Sue what she should do not make a difference?
- What is the best way to help Scoffing Sue?

- Were you ever a Scoffing Sue? What happened to bring about change?
- What is the most critical mindset that will help us turn from wildness to wisdom?
- Explain what is meant by “fear of the Lord.”
- Explain how fearing the Lord impacts a woman’s behavior.
- How does Lady Wild’s invitation mimic Lady Wise’s?
- Whose voice sounds more attractive to you and why?
- Based on the three profiles, what do you need to do in order to become less wild and more wise?

Direction/Homework:

- For next week, download and complete the 20 Question Wild or Wise Quiz
- Read the conclusion of the book—Wild to Wise.
- Encourage the women to take some time to write a letter/testimony about how the book has impacted their lives.
- Party assignments for next week.... Who will bring what food, etc.

CONCLUSION—Wild to Wise (GIRLS GONE WISE WRAP-UP PARTY)

Preparation:

- Prepare for a party!!!! Serve food, and set aside some time for sharing.

Sharing Time:

- Talk about the Wild Thing at the Well and how Jesus wants to fill up our buckets.... Ask, “Aren’t you glad that Jesus’ message to all us wild things is ‘I forgive you—now go and sin no more?’ He doesn’t condemn us for messing up. He extends His grace and gives us power to change.”
- Did you have any thoughts about the concluding chapter? How did you feel about the idea of the alternate ending? Or about anything else in the chapter?
- Overall, how has this book impacted you?
- Which point of contrast was most convicting? Which was most helpful?
- How has your life changed as a result?
- What are the areas that will be the most challenging for you to live out?
- Did anyone bring along a letter/testimony that you’d be willing to share?
- Encourage the women that being wise and not wild is a life-long journey. Encourage them to take what they have learned and share it with friends – and to do whatever they can to spread the message of biblical womanhood... perhaps even to start and lead their own Girls Gone Wise study.
- Conclude by reading out loud the last section of the book—“The Most Beautiful Woman in the World.”
- Close in prayer.

Dear Small Group Leader,

Thank you so much for being a spiritual mom to the women in your small group! I can't tell you how much I appreciate all the time and effort you have invested in them, and in furthering Christ's Kingdom. You may not know until eternity the impact you've had on their lives- but the Lord has seen it all.

If you get a chance, write me a letter and let me know, from a leader's perspective, how your group went and how the women responded to the Girls Gone Wise message. It would encourage me, and help me know how to best serve you with developing more resources.

Thanks Again!

Your Friend,

Mary

Mary Kassian

