

LISA COTTER: Identity Rooted and Revealed in Jesus Christ

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Share your initial thoughts on the video. What struck you? What resonated with you? What challenged your view of reality?
2. Lisa speaks at length about our world's ever-changing (roughly every 10-15 yrs.) definition of what it means to be a woman. What does it mean to be a woman in 2019 (i.e. what are the measures of an ideal woman today, and who are our 'authorities' on this)? Contrast the modern-day vision, with the one rooted in the creation account in Scripture?
(Woman created in the image and likeness of God, with unique attributes of feminine genius - Strength, Beauty, Intuition, Sensitivity, Fidelity, Maternity, Generosity, Self-Giving, Acceptance, Receptivity)
3. Lisa shared Saint John Paul II's concept of "Feminine Genius" – the unique quality that women bring into this world. Far from being stereotypical, it relates to the unique expression of humanity proper to women, in and through their attributes of strength, beauty, intuition, sensitivity, fidelity, maternity, generosity, self-giving, acceptance and receptivity. These can be lived out in as many ways as there are women in this world, as exemplified by the great and very different, female Saints mentioned by Lisa (Therese of Lisieux, Joan of Arc, Edith Stein, Anne Seaton). Share your thoughts about this. What has your experience of this 'feminine genius' been? Can you think of any women in your life, or women in history who 'made the world more human' through the way they exercised the above listed attributes? What are some practical ways in which we as women can tap-into these innate attributes of 'Feminine Genius' and actively live engage them in the day to day?
4. *"Womanhood and manhood are complimentary...it is only through the duality of the "masculine" and the "feminine" that the "human" finds full realization."*

–Saint John Paul II

In light of the above quote, Lisa notes, that God chose 2 unique genders to complement each-other, with different strengths and gifts, that if used well help us become fully alive. What does our world today say about the differences between Men and Women? How does this view contrast what JP2 says in the above quote? What are some areas in which the different

Come. Be. BECOME

"Be who you were created to be, and you will set the world on fire."



strengths of Men and Women are most apparent? (e.g. think of annoyances you experienced with members of the opposite sex in the past ;-)) How can gaining a greater awareness of the differences help us as we live out our respective missions in life? What are some challenges resulting from these differences?

LIVE IT – WEEKLY CHALLENGE

Identify one attribute of *Feminine Genius* (from the list in Question 2), and become more aware of it in your daily interactions as the week progresses. Practice it more intentionally this week.

EXTRA RESOURCES:

Book by Lisa & Kevin Cotter	Dating Detox: 40 Days of Perfecting Love in an Imperfect World. SHORT URL: https://amzn.to/2GJYvTo
Book about Chiara Corbella Petrillo	Chiara Corbella Petrillo. Witness to Joy by Simone Troisi & Cristiana Paccini. SHORT URL: https://amzn.to/2PsJPe3
Lisa's Blog post about Chiara Corbella	https://madetomagnify.wordpress.com/2016/07/15/saints-are-still-being-made-meet-chiara-corbella-petrillo/ SHORT URL: https://bit.ly/2W6mrFv
Lisa's Website / Blog / Podcast	http://madetomagnify.com/

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