

Lisa Bevere: 'You Are Not the Problem'

You are an answer. "No," you may say, "I am not. I am a problem. You don't know what my life has been like." Quiet, listen, I am not speaking to your past; I am speaking to your future. If you believe you are an answer, you'll approach life and relationships in an entirely different manner than if you believe you are a problem. Problems are negative, critical and judgmental. Problems nag your life with their worries and fears. Oh, but solutions sound and feel very different. They are positive, hopeful and life-giving in their wisdom. Answers comfort and slay fear with the power of love.

If you believe you are a problem, sooner or later, you will begin to act like one. Likewise, if you believe you are not intrinsically a problem but a solution, you will begin to act like one. Imagine what might happen if a whole generation of women got this. If they looked in the mirror each day and said, "I am an answer. I have the power to rock this world. I was created for good and not harm. I don't need to roar, for I hold the power of the whisper. I don't have to be black or white—for I am the color and beauty of creation!"

An answer was the very reason for our existence and the motivation behind our creation. Paradise had a problem, and we were God's answer. Think of it! You are somebody's answer. You are something's answer. There is a problem out there only your presence can solve. There is a broken and wounded heart to which only you can administer healing. You are a voice to the mute. You are beauty amid desolation. You are not a victim; you are an answer. Imagine the power in this change of perspective. Women are not men, but they are often the men's answer.

"Then the Lord God said, 'It is not good that the man should

be alone. I will make him a helper suitable for him'" (Gen. 2:18).

Adam needed help. Eve was his answer. Answers or solutions don't have to fight to make their presence known when they come on the scene. The wise know this. Adam sure did.

"Then Adam said, 'This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she will be called Woman, for she was taken out of Man' (Gen. 2:23).

Just as with Adam, when people see women begin to embody truth, they will leave the problem mindset and embrace the role as an answer. I believe there is a world out there watching and waiting for you to be an answer.

Granted, we live in a world and often in a church culture that repeatedly communicates that women are a bit of a "wrench in the engine." A weak link, so to speak. Oh, but this is just not true!

Woman was made to be an answer. She was the treasure for whom Adam searched God's perfect creation. When she loves, she is the oil that anoints and makes life run smoothly. When she is free, she is not the weakest link; she is the ruby pendant suspended by a length of gold.

"Let me see your face, let me hear your voice; for your voice is sweet, and your face is lovely" (Song 2:14b).

There is a world that longs to see and hear you. The daughters of Eve have foolishly believed a lie and allowed it to change their perspective and image. By embracing the lie that we were a problem, as time passed, we became one. By forgetting we were lovely, we lost a portion of our beauty. It is true that most of us don't disappoint those who watch for our failure. But the wind is shifting, and truth is blowing free and fresh to all who have ears to hear what truth would speak and awaken. The world longs to hear the loveliness of our voices

again. {eoa}

Lisa Bevere's *authentic, passionate and witty teachings weave profound biblical truths with practical application. A New York Times best-selling author, her books are in the hands of millions worldwide. Lisa and her husband John, who's also a best-selling author and teacher, are the founders of Messengers International*

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