Introduction

Development comes with responsibility. Every living thing has the capacity to develop from one level to another. For human, it is from infancy, through childhood and adolescence to adulthood. At every stage of human life even in the bible responsibilities are assigned. Though responsibility may overlap due to modernization, it could be adjudge unusual and unexpected. From the time of creation man was created and given a role, and the woman was created for a purpose too. The general responsibility was for them to fill the earth and control it (Gen 1: 26-30). Further was a unique responsibility to woman – a suitable companion to help the man. To actualise that, God took one of the man’s rib and made the woman. It is the man that named this creature companion woman (Gen 2:18-23). This creation role continued to evolved. Thus biblically and circularly it looks like the woman is different from the man since the way and
manner of their creation differ. The primary role and responsibility of women can be appreciated from the bible record that at the fall man God said to the woman ‘I will increase your trouble in pregnancy and your pain in giving birth. In spite of this you will have desire for your husband, yet you will be subject to him’ Gen 3:14&15. In that regard, it looks like the woman is home bound, closely knitted to her children. Hence it will not be out of place to consider woman as home maker. We are going to consider the title the woman as home maker under the following subheadings: nature and responsibility of a woman, home making, women as home makers.

**Nature and Responsibility of a Woman**

A woman is a female human being, as distinguished from a girl or a man. She is an adult female person. Could be seen as a female who has reached puberty. This means that the female has the capacity to bear a child and nurture that child. In the olden days, it mean that if the female was betrothed, she can now go to live with the husband. In other words she can take responsibility for her action since in most cases she has reached eighteen years. In her home, she is expected to be the toast of the home, the pride of the family, the attraction that draws every person home: the father, the children, the relations. She is supposed to be the epitome of strength, joy, confidence, faith, trust. She is suppose to be very hard working pulling every member of the home along. She is a model and will be
look up to for every good thing spiritually, socially, morally, economically and educationally. She is caring and loving. Optimism is often her watchword. Her character could be summed up; she has the fear of God. In fact a woman is expected to be everything good. Yes, because God created her to fill the vacuum in the man’s life. She should be in a position to do everything the man fails to do.

The woman is created to be the embodiment of spiritual and emotional strength. Ask yourself why women succeed where men have failed. You see them carrying on prayerfully. Crying onto the Lord, (Hannah, the Woman of Zarephath, Mary the mother of God, Esther, Judith, Veronica that wiped the face of Jesus). Their strength also has negative impact. Think of Lot’s wife, Jezebel, Herodias, etc). This means that women apply their strength to do good or to achieve their evil designs.

Characteristically women radiate joy in any environment they are presented. In their moulding by God, there is always that tendency to amplify happy moments and bring joy. This is visible at the visit of our Blessed mother to Elizabeth. Thus a real woman carries with her the aura of Holy Spirit which giveth joy. The Samaritan woman brought joy to the people of Samarian by given them the message that she has found Christ. The bad and evil women on the other hand bring pains.

Women are embodiment of assurance. Assurance that God is there to attend to every situation. That the end is not yet because through them, procreation is assured. To the woman, the assurance is that tomorrow will be
better than yesterday (Naomi). The assurance is what pushed Mary Magdalene to
go to the grave by so doing was privileged to be the first to behold the risen Christ.

Women love, care and show passion. You can see a lot of this in the
scriptures: the women wept for Christ, Veronica wiped the face of Jesus, Mary
and Martha cared for Jesus, the apostles were helped by many women in the bible,
Paul was protected by a woman when they sought to kill him because of his faith.
Presently there is this allusion that it is the women to own the church. Their soft-
hearted nature will always drive them to care for things of God primarily His
priests.

Economically, the woman adds value to any available efforts to ensure
economic viability. Married or single, she does not have idle moments, she
weaves, plaits hair, sells mama put, goes to Ohaji to buy whatever, sells
groundnut, pure water etc to make ends meet. In fact the woman does anything
to ensure economic viability.

Educationally, train a woman and you train a nation.
If a woman is ever ready and by nature created to fill a vacuum, then she is a
treasure.

Home Making

Home making to a layman means managing a home, it could be considered
as housekeeping, house work. It is the act of overseeing the organisational day to
day operations of a house. Home making can be considered as a full-fledged employment. This job carries with it a lot of responsibility namely to:

1. Accomplish a task that will make people around you happy;
2. Provide a good working condition and pleasant atmosphere for people working in the establishment that is home;
3. Being in charge of the financial condition in the home;
4. Serve as a mentor to every member of the establishment;

The task in the home has social, economic, spiritual, religious, moral, political and educational and emotional dimensions. It then means that home making involves the overseeing the socio-economic, spiritual, political, educational, moral, religious, political and emotional day to day activities of the home. The home maker will therefore be held responsible for any flaws or misgiven in the any activities of the home. The home maker is therefore a super manager.

**Women and Home Making**

A woman engaged in business of home making implies employing all the good attributes of a woman both the natural and the environmentally acquired to accrue profit as well as make own business the envy of others. As a business with 50% probability of success or failure, the manager will muscle up every technique to succeed. Biblically some failed woefully in their own responsibility as home makers. Take the example of Jezebel,
Herodias, to mention but a few. Others succeeded like our mother Mary, Esther, Naomi, Hanna etc (Note that the home of the woman must not really be her domestic home rather any place or environment given to her to cater for).

How then can a woman succeed in the business of home making? Yes you are naturally blessed with traits that may not be found in men like love (hence the man is compelled to love but the woman to obey), endurance (to enable you endure the pains of child birth and even the family challenges), joy, strength, confidence, faith, perseverance etc. Despite all these endowment, people still fail in the business of home making. What is the secret? The secrets is placing God as the Head of the business of home making. Complete and absolute surrender to God. When God is placed as the head, He will draw the schedule of duty. Though the schedule varies because home making does not have a stereotyped formula but there are some indices that are found in the formular

1. Prayer;
2. Communication in the family;
3. Ready to accept/absorb financial, health, social challenges. Always at the receiving end when the going gets rough;
4. Ready to accept humiliation;
5. Ready to dance in the worst instance to the tune of the man in the home.
6. Ready to be everything to everybody including being a prayer warrior, a bank etc;

7. Ready to accept responsibility to all wrongdoings;

8. Ready to be a shield for every arrow shut on any member of the home;

9. Act as a general counsellor to individuals within and outside the home

It is important to emphasise that the home is a reflection of the woman in the home. If the home and members are dirty, the woman is a dirty one. If there are priests, religious, good, educated, morally upright, enviable home, they are reflections of the woman in the home. It is indisputable fact that the woman is the image of the home.

**Conclusion**

My dear budding vocational and sisters, may I emphatically tell you that God is great. In His wisdom, He created woman to right the mistakes He made in man. You will agree with me that if not for woman, the home will be the most unpleasant, most challenging, most disastrous and inhabitable. Only few men are home makers but all women are home makers. The home can be made good or bad. Choose to be a good home maker. Apply the outlined indices and more, you will be surprise the good that will result from it. It is sometime very unbearable but rewarding here and thereafter.

Dream a good home, pray to be a good home maker and work it out with prayer.