

In the current culture, fashion is robbing a person's true identity and dignity. Society sends the message that attractive clothes are revealing ones. Sadly, many young people are taking this message into heart. However, it is stated in 1 Peter 3:3-4, *your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewelry or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight.* Just so, as followers of Christ, it is our duty to point our fellow citizens to God. We need to honour God

with our clothing choices. The way we dress can be used as an important tool to fulfil this duty. Media has taken the role of plaguing the hearts of young lives, giving us a detrimental view that modesty is not in the picture. As an 11th grader living in the midst of this magnetic pull of media, sometimes it's hard to go against the flow.

Dressing differently from what the world expects from us. Nonetheless, God has made us in his image and likeness. By dressing as the world tells us, our dignity and our identity are ripped from us. As the children of God, the Divine Creator and King of heaven and earth, we are

royalty and as royalty we have class, value, and dignity. However, we should not wait for the world to accept us. We need to accept ourselves first. From being that one fish that goes against the flow to being one of the few people in school/community wearing modest clothing, to being the person we want everyone to see. Not our body, not our eye or hair color, but our heart. We are, my brothers and sisters, Children of God, our Father. Dress like it. Act like it. We have every right to keep our dignity and our value though modest dressing. Do not be afraid to be that one modest fish. The world will in its time accept us ◦

USING MODESTY TO SHAPE OUR IDENTITY

- ALISHA KURIAN » 16 YRS » MICHIGAN, USA

Saint Agnes is the patron saint of chastity, and can be a great intercessor in this battle for modesty.

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