

Talk about Women in Leadership

- I. The New Testament liberates women.
 - a. Galatians 3:28 “There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.”
*Everyone is equal – equally sinners; equally saved by Christ; equally children of God – no distinctions.
 - b. Acts 2:17-18 “And it shall be in the last days God says, that I will pour forth of My Spirit on all mankind; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even on My bondslaves, both men and women I will in those days pour forth of My Spirit and they shall prophecy.”
 - c. Romans 16:1 Deaconess – Phoebe – in the church at Cenchreas; Priscilla – fellow worker – “When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.” Acts 18:26 (Apollos) – Acts tells us Philip had four daughters who were all prophetesses.

- II. The consideration of culture.
 - a. 1Cor. 9:19-23 “For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I may win more. To the Jews I became as a Jew, so that I might win Jews; to those under the Law, as under the Law though not being myself under the Law, so that I might win those who are under the Law; to those who are without law, as without law, though not being without the law of God but under the law of Christ, so that I might win those who are without law....I do all things for the sake of the gospel, so that I may become a fellow partaker of it.” *Oman – Anne
 - b. 1Corinthians 14:34-35 “The women are to keep silent in the churches; for they are not permitted to speak, but are to subject themselves, just as the Law also says. If they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is improper for a woman to speak in church.”
 - i. Not all gatherings – 1Cor. 11:5 A woman’s head should be covered when she prays or prophesies... Unbelievers are present in the 1Cor. 14 passage.
 - ii. Why? As the law also says. Jews are present and they would not be able to receive from a woman and if a woman were allowed to speak they wouldn’t be able to receive from the entire meeting.
 - c. Another evangelism passage – even more difficult. 1Tim 2:4 God wants all people to be saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. 2:22 “A woman

must quietly receive instruction with entire submissiveness. But I do not allow a woman to teach or exercise authority over a man, but to remain quiet. For it was Adam who was first created, and then Eve. And it was not Adam who was deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression. But women will be preserved through Childbearing if they continue in faith and love and sanctity with self restraint.”

- i. Sin again is referenced – the law condemns us for sin.
 - ii. Childbearing – Is this a reference to Genesis 3:15 it is the woman who would bear Messiah and be the one who makes him human?
- d. “To those who are without law, as without law...” How would Paul deal with the woman issue today? Are these eternal truths or cultural truths? One is always the same for ever; the other is always changing.
- e. Jesus to a second generation Greek church in Thyatira: “You tolerate the woman Jezebel, who calls herself a prophetess, and she teaches and leads My bond-servants astray so that they commit acts of immorality and eat things sacrificed to idols.” Rev. 2:20 Nothing about allowing a woman to prophecy and teach only what she is teaching.

III. The role of women in the home.

- a. “Wives be subject to your own husbands, as (your service) to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself being the Savior of the body. But as the church is subject to Christ, so also the wives ought to be to their husbands in everything. Husbands love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her...For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and shall be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh. This mystery is great; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church.” Eph. 5:22-25; 31-32 *Different roles – Christ is everyone’s head – as part of serving him you each have different roles – respect and love. 1Peter 3:7 “or your prayers will be hindered.” *It doesn’t say that men are better heads than women – it says they’ve been assigned different roles as we through marriage picture the church and Christ.
- b. “But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ. Every man who has something on his head while praying or prophesying disgraces his head. But every woman who has her head uncovered while praying or prophesying disgraces her head, for she is one and the same as the woman whose head is shaved.” 1Cor. 11:3-5
 - i. Jesus and the Father – John 14:28

- ii. Man – husband – it has to be husband or Paul contradicts himself; woman – wife.
- iii. Wives covered their heads to say I am married. They are free – it's what 1Corinthians is all about freedom – but how we exercise our freedom in community. A wife without a covered head in that culture would be the same as a wife who refused to wear her wedding ring in public in ours.
- iv. Culture: “But if one is inclined to be contentious, we have no other practice, more have the churches of God.” 11:16 Unity – don't divide – his appeal is to culture not the new covenant.

IV. Women in leadership.

- a. So can a woman lead and teach in 21st century America? I believe so if they are rightly related to their husband. Single but not angry about being a woman.
 - i. Aimee Semple McPherson – The four square
 - ii. Sophie – started this church
 - iii. Joyce Meyer
 - iv. Beth Moore
- b. Cho's secret to growing the largest church in the world. *Women leaders.
- c. Women as senior leaders?
 - i. Culturally it's easier for men to follow other men. *When a woman describes the ideal male she is often describing another woman. (Tender, listens, understands without me having to tell him.) *Statistics
 - ii. Jesus chose twelve men but included women to be the first witnesses and a woman to be the picture of how to respond to the gospel.
 - iii. It is difficult but not wrong. Deborah; Kathryn Kuhlman

V. Women in leadership at City Church.

- a. Mad City was looking for a male for lead pastor and so was Lake City.
- b. Female elders – Sarah – single; Renee White; Angie Rusu – tremendous assets to the team.
- c. Sarah is the pastor of arts and communications and serves the team she leads which is made up of both men and woman.
- d. Sabrina Walsh will be speaking on a Sunday morning. Spoke at Mad City and in Montevideo. Jodie Bunn spoke at our national convention last year. Gail Keapproth speaks all over the world for YWAM.
- e. Strong women – Jennifer Dharam; Diane Cook; Gail Keapproth.