



Offer Hope. Grow in Community. Be the Church

August 15, 2021

1 Corinthians 14:26-40 Building up the church body!

...Everything must be done so that the church may be built up. (1 Corinthians 14:26)

πάντα πρὸς οἰκοδομὴν γινέσθω

All for building up the church family it must be done.

(27-28) What was supposed to occur when Christians gathered?

(29-33a) What is Paul suggesting the church in Corinth needed?

(34-35)

???????

A woman should pray and prophesy with her head covered. (1 Corinthians 11)

A woman should remain silent in church. (1 Corinthians 14)

Biblical Manhood and Womanhood

1) It is important to reaffirm the equality of personhood and importance of man and woman.

a) *Both male and female are created in the image of God (Gen 1:27)*

b) *The Holy Spirit is poured out into both male and female. (Acts 2:17-18; 1 Cor 12:7; 1 Peter 4:10; Acts 8:12; Gal 3:28)*

c) *Both are equal heirs of the gracious gift of life (1 Peter 3:7).*

d) *Women's gifts and ministries have wrongly been stifled in many evangelical families and churches.*

(Piper/Grudem)

2) Nevertheless, the Bible does state that some leadership roles in the church (and family) are restricted by God to men. (1 Tim 2:11-15)

So, what is being taught in the church in Corinth?

1) Context of our Passage: Prophecies should be considered and then shared to build up everyone in the church gathering.

Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said. (1 Cor 14:29).

Do not quench the Spirit. Do not treat prophecies with contempt but test them all; hold on to what is good, reject every kind of evil. (1 Thessalonians 5:19-22)

2) This was to be done by the leaders (elders/pastors) and this role was to be filled by men.

Some Applications to put into practice:

1) Look for opportunities to build up

(...each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up. 1 Cor 14:26)

You are blessed to be a blessing.

2) Home-groups are a great way to experience the gift of prophecy.

...eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy. (1 Cor 14:1)

3) Take up the Word!

If the gift of prophecy begins to be used in a church, the church should place even more emphasis on the vastly superior value of Scripture as the source to which Christians can always go to hear the voice of the living God. Prophecy is a valuable gift, as are many other gifts, but it is in Scripture that God and only God speaks to us his very words, even today, and throughout our lives. Rather than hoping at every worship service that the highlight would be some word of prophecy, those who use the gift of prophecy need to be reminded that we should find our focus of joy, our expectation, and our delight in God himself as he speaks to us through the Bible. There we have a treasure of infinite worth: the actual words of our Creator speaking to us in language we can understand. And rather than seeking frequent guidance through prophecy, we should emphasize that it is in Scripture that we are to find guidance for our lives. In Scripture is our source of direction, our focus when seeking God's will, our sufficient and completely reliable standard. It is of God's words in Scripture that we can with confidence say, "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path" (Ps. 119:105). Wayne Grudem

4) Men – these verses should encourage you to grow in Christ so you can help your wife and family do the same.