

## Women in Ministry

WIM-01

November 5, 2023

### Women in Ministry – various perspectives

#### Silence?

- 1 Timothy 2:11–12 Women should learn quietly and submissively. 12 I do not let women teach men or have authority over them. Let them listen quietly.
- 1 Corinthians 14:34–35 Women should be silent during the church meetings. It is not proper for them to speak. They should be submissive, just as the law says. 35 If they have any questions, they should ask their husbands at home, for it is improper for women to speak in church meetings.

#### Focus for Biblical interpretation

- Scripture must be regarded in context.
- Paul's clear teachings must be used to clarify what seems less clear
- Though Scripture is not bound to culture, it is definitely targeted to culture

#### The contexts of these teachings

- The women in the Ephesian church were allowed to learn, but not to teach.
- Tension of recognition of women as fellow heirs of Christ within the church on the one hand, and the serious problems being caused by the false teachers on the other
- More likely, Paul restrained the Ephesian women from teaching because they didn't yet have enough knowledge or experience
- 1 Timothy 2:9-15
  - Women wear appropriate modest clothing
  - Hairdos, jewelry and expensive clothes? (NKJV) – Adorn themselves NOT
  - Women will be saved through childbearing – how literal is that intended?
  - Alternate reading – “will be saved by the birth of the Child” (Jesus)

- 1 Corinthians 14 – in the context of Chapters 12-14
  - 12 - Variety of Spiritual gifts given as the Spirit wills
  - 13 - Power of the Spirit through fruit of the Spirit
  - 14 – Orderly services that edify all

#### Women in ministry throughout the Bible

- Deborah the Judge - Judges 4:4–9
- Women - the first given instruction to share the Gospel (even among the men) - Matthew 28:5–10
- Acts 2:16–18 In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on my servants—men and women alike— and they will prophesy.
- Acts 18:26 (NLT) — 26 When Priscilla and Aquila heard him preaching boldly in the synagogue, they took him aside and explained the way of God even more accurately.
- Romans 16:3–5 Give my greetings to Priscilla and Aquila, my co-workers in the ministry ... Also give my greetings to the church that meets in their home...
- Romans 16:7 Greet Andronicus and Junia, ...highly respected among the apostles
- Acts 21:8–9 (NLT) — Philip the Evangelist, - He had four unmarried daughters who had the gift of prophecy.
- 1 Corinthians 14:3 (NLT) — 3 But one who prophesies strengthens others, encourages them, and comforts them.
- Galatians 3:27–28 (NLT) — 27 And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. 28 There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ Jesus.

#### Biblical Tensions that Keep us in Tune

- If I am wrong... I would rather give an account for:
  - Why did you give women so much freedom to minister Than
  - Why did you restrict women from doing the ministry that I had gifted them to do