

House Rules

Functioning as the Church

Week 06: Behavior in the Church (Part 2): Men and Women

Scripture

1 Timothy 2:8-15

Motivation (Why They Need to Know It)

What were the reasons for Paul's writing?

- To confront false teachers who had infiltrated the church
- To establish proper conduct in the churches at Ephesus (circular letter)
 - Prayer among the church (*last week*)

“Prayer is the act of asking God to do what he has already promised to do, which is modeled throughout the Bible by the patriarchs, the psalmists, the prophets, Jesus, and the apostles.” Gary Millar in his essay, *The Doctrine of Prayer*

- ✓ Pray for Everyone (supplications, prayers, intercessions, thanksgiving)
- ✓ Pray for All in Authority
- ✓ Pray for the Lost
- Conduct of men and women (*this week*)

It especially concerns the conduct of men and women, along with a reminder of distinct roles within the church.

What we talk about today may seem MESSY.

However, we will be in danger of misinterpreting these words if we see them outside the context of when and why they were written.

Hermeneutics - the study of interpreting the meaning and importance of the Bible.

Basic Principles of Hermeneutics...

- **Prepare** - don't interpret the Bible through preconceived ideas and emotions
- **Investigate** - focus on the original meaning of the Scriptures
 - Interpret literally (understand the plain meaning unless obvious symbolism)
 - Interpret historically, grammatically, and contextually
 - Interpret Scripture with Scripture
- **Apply** - appropriately connect Scripture's original meaning with current culture

Information (What They Need to Know)

With these principles in mind, let's jump into today's verses.

Two Audiences Concerning Behavior...

Audience 1: Men of the Church

1 Timothy 2:8 (ESV) I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling...

Do This...

- Pray (lead the way in dependence on God)
- Lift holy hands

“Hands symbolize the activities of life; thus, *holy hands* represent a holy life. This basis of effective prayer is a righteous life.” - John MacArthur

Don't Do This... (related to praying)

- Be angry
 - ✓ Bad temper
 - ✓ An uprising from settled resentment
 - ✓ Proceeds from an internal disposition which steadfastly opposes someone or something based on extended personal exposure
- Quarrel (doubting)

Audience 2: Women of the Church

Do This...

- Be modest (place greater value on what's on the inside)

1 Timothy 2:9 (ESV) ...likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable [*decent; orderly*] apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, **10** but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works.

- ✓ This is not forbidding braided hair, gold, pearls, or costly attire; however, an abstaining or drawing attention to oneself in a place of worship
- ✓ Let women be known for loving God which manifests itself in good works

- Learn in Submissiveness

1 Timothy 2:11 (ESV) Let a woman learn quietly [*not unruly*] with all submissiveness.

- ✓ In the 1st century, Jewish/Greek culture did not hold women in high regard
- ✓ So, Paul was inviting them to be a part of spiritual maturity

■ Don't Do This...

1 Timothy 2:12 (ESV) I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet.

- **Teach a man** (in public worship gatherings)
 - ✓ This is not an issue of equality or ability, but God's ordering of the church
 - ✓ A woman is not to assume teaching roles for public teaching of the Bible
"Women teaching other women, and women teaching children, are not in view here, and both are encouraged elsewhere. Nor does this passage have in view the role of women in leadership situations outside the church (business, government, etc.)." - ESV Study Bible
- **Exercise authority over a man** (in public worship gatherings)
 - ✓ Submission to authority is even demonstrated in the Godhead (God's nature)
 - ✓ The Father exercises authority over the Son and the Son submits to the Father's authority
 - ✓ Men should lead from servanthood and responsibility, not pride or control

Why is a woman not to teach or exercise authority over a man?

1 Timothy 2:13 (ESV) For Adam was formed first, then Eve; **14** and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. **15** Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

- **It's the way God ordered creation** (Adam first and then Eve) - *gender roles were not a part of the curse, but they were rooted in God's original design*
- **Adam violated his leadership role to protect His wife** (he sinned out of rebellion and she sinned out of deception)
- Women can teach at home since they have the most influence on their home (and a closer bond with children)

Application (What They Need to Do)

Action Steps...

- Men need to lead well from a heart that's in love with God and others
- Women should embrace the leadership roles given them in discipling children and other women