

Activating Our Position in Christ**1 Corinthians 11:2-16****Gospel Equality****ONE THING****EQUALITY CONFUSION always leads to HARMONY POLLUTION**

1 Corinthians 11:2–16 (ESV) — 2 Now I commend you because you remember me in everything and maintain the traditions even as I delivered them to you. 3 But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God. 4 Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered dishonors his head, 5 but every wife who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head, since it is the same as if her head were shaven. 6 For if a wife will not cover her head, then she should cut her hair short. But since it is disgraceful for a wife to cut off her hair or shave her head, let her cover her head. 7 For a man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God, but woman is the glory of man. 8 For man was not made from woman, but woman from man. 9 Neither was man created for woman, but woman for man. 10 That is why a wife ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels. 11 Nevertheless, in the Lord woman is not independent of man nor man of woman; 12 for as woman was made from man, so man is now born of woman. And all things are from God. 13 Judge for yourselves: is it proper for a wife to pray to God with her head uncovered? 14 Does not nature itself teach you that if a man wears long hair it is a disgrace for him, 15 but if a woman has long hair, it is her glory? For her hair is given to

her for a covering. 16 If anyone is inclined to be contentious, we have no such practice, nor do the churches of God.

The Greek word used here is...

γυνή (guna) - an adult female of marriageable age

So as we come to this passage let's attempt to better understand what is being taught...

1. The PROBLEM➤ **The MISUSE of EQUALITY**

The Bible is very clear that all people are created equal...

Galatians 3:28 (ESV) — There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Gospel equality was a radical idea in the first century!

When we look at the role of women in the Gospel story it is astounding!

In fact, one of the greatest “proofs” to the Gospel’s authenticity is the role women play in the Gospel narrative...

- Mary Magdalene
- Martha & Mary
- Women who financially supported Jesus and His disciples

However, like anything new or different, there is always overstepping the Biblical truth

Just in Corinth, we have already seen their overstepping in areas...

- **Immorality**
- **Food offered to idols**

And now we hear Paul attempting to address an overstepping in the area of EQUALITY...

- **EQUALITY does not mean SAMENESS!**

In the first century culture, married women wore head coverings to indicate they were married

→ **Pic – India**

→ **When I went to Calcutta India**



Equality confusion always leads to harmony pollution

1. The PROBLEM

2. The PRINCIPLE

- **Order in RESPONSIBILITY must never lead to INEQUALITY or INFERIORITY, but to HARMONY within the BODY**

In marriage seminars that I have taught through the years I use an illustration that seems to make sense to most couples...

- **Husbands are like THERMOSTATS**
- **Wives are like THERMOMETERS**

When leaders don't lead...

1 Samuel 15:17 (ESV) — 17 And Samuel said, “Though you are little in your own eyes, are you not the head of the tribes of Israel? The LORD anointed you king over Israel.

- **AUTHORITY does not mean SUPERIORITY, but RESPONSIBILITY**

Equality confusion always leads to harmony pollution

1. The PROBLEM

2. The PRINCIPLE

3. The PRECEPTS

➤ **HARMONY in REDEMPTION**

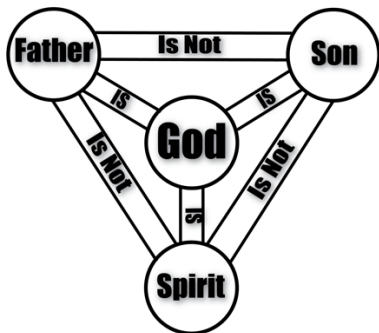
1 Corinthians 11:3–7 (ESV) — But I want you to understand that the head of every man is Christ, the head of a wife is her husband, and the head of Christ is God. Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered dishonors his head, but every wife who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head, since it is the same as if her head were shaven. For if a wife will not cover her head, then she should cut her hair short. But since it is disgraceful for a wife to cut off her hair or shave her head, let her cover her head. For a man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God, but woman is the glory of man.

Does the Bible teach that God the Father and Jesus, God the Son are equal?

YES!!!

John 10:30 (ESV) — I and the Father are one.”

John 14:8–9 (ESV) — Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’?”



And yet, in our redemption, Jesus has chosen to subordinate Himself to the Father...

Matthew 26:39 (ESV) — “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.”

Matthew 24:36 (ESV) — “But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only.

➤ **UNITY in CREATION**

1 Corinthians 11:8–10 (ESV) — For man was not made from woman, but woman from man. Neither was man created for woman, but woman for man. That is why a wife ought to have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.

Genesis 2:18 (ESV) — Then the LORD God said, “It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper fit for him.”

➤ **EQUALITY in PARTNERSHIP**

1 Corinthians 11:11–12 (ESV) — Nevertheless, in the Lord woman is not independent of man nor man of woman; for as woman was made from man, so man is now born of woman. And all things are from God.

We are equal but different!

Ephesians 5:33 (ESV) — However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

➤ ***MODESTY in PRACTICE***

1 Corinthians 11:13–16 (ESV) — Judge for yourselves: is it proper for a wife to pray to God with her head uncovered? Does not nature itself teach you that if a man wears long hair it is a disgrace for him, but if a woman has long hair, it is her glory? For her hair is given to her for a covering. If anyone is inclined to be contentious, we have no such practice, nor do the churches of God.

Activating Our Position in Christ
1 Corinthians 11:2-16
Gospel Equality

_____ always leads to _____

1. The _____

➤ The _____ of _____

➤ _____ does not mean _____!

2. The _____

➤ Order in _____ must never lead to
_____ or _____, but to
_____ within the _____.

➤ Husbands are like _____

➤ Wives are like _____

➤ _____ does not mean _____,
but _____.

3. The _____

➤ _____ in _____

➤ _____ in _____

➤ _____ in _____

➤ _____ in _____