

DISCIPLESHIP RESOURCES

DISCUSSION GUIDES

EVERY MONDAY

Discussion Guide

Sunday Sermon 10.18.26



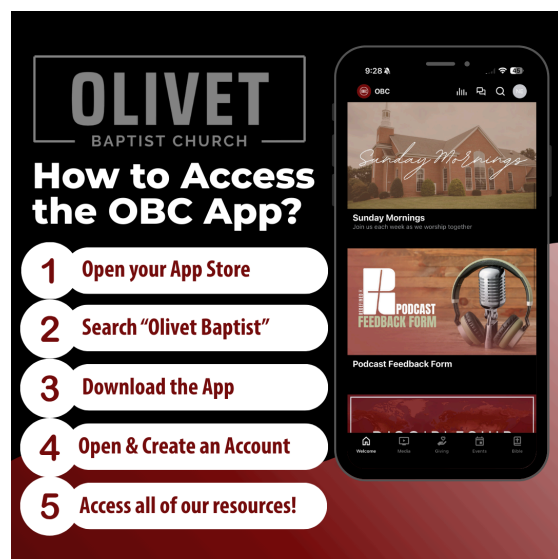
Reestablishing God's Standard in the Church

Part 5: God's Standard for Men and Women in His Church

This guide is designed to help your family or group take what was taught on Sunday and move from simply hearing the information to applying it in ways that build up and encourage one another. Feel free to adjust the depth and number of questions based on your time and the size of your group.

Access the Sermon on the Website & App:

[Click Here](#)



Overview

This guide is designed to help your group engage honestly and thoughtfully with what Scripture teaches about the roles of men and women in the church. The goal is not debate, but discovery — letting God's word shape how we think, serve, and live together as his people.

Key Takeaways

- Scripture, not culture, tradition, or personal preference, is the standard for what we believe and how we live.
 - Equal worth does not mean identical roles, and different roles do not mean different worth.
 - Men are called to lead in prayer and holiness — not in prominence or authority for its own sake, but in humility before God.
 - Women are called to prioritize godliness over outward appearance, to learn God's word, and to invest deeply in the lives of others.
 - Paul's instructions in this passage are rooted in God's creation design, not in temporary cultural circumstances.
 - The role of disciple-maker is available to every believer and is among the most significant roles in the body of Christ.
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Discussion Questions

Opening

1. Before reading or hearing this passage, what assumptions or feelings did you already have about it? Were those shaped more by Scripture, by your upbringing, or by the surrounding culture?
2. The sermon opened with this statement: "Scripture, which is the standard, not our culture, traditions, or personal preferences, determines what we believe." How easy or difficult is it for you to hold that conviction consistently? Where do you find it hardest to apply?

God's Standard for Men — 1 Timothy 2:8

3. Paul calls men to pray "lifting up holy hands without wrath and doubting." The sermon described prayer as "remaining humble before God." In what practical ways should that humility show up in a man's daily life and in his leadership at home and in the church?

4. The sermon referenced 1 Peter 3 and the idea that a man's relationship with his wife is connected to his prayer life. Why do you think God would make that connection? What does that say about the kind of integrity God expects from men?
5. The sermon asked directly: Are the men in this body leading the way in prayer and in a life set apart for God? How would you honestly answer that question for yourself?

God's Standard for Women — 1 Timothy 2:9-10

6. The sermon made this distinction: "Outward appearance must not be the primary means by which a woman seeks to establish her worth." Where do you see this pressure most strongly in today's culture, and how does the church sometimes reflect that same pressure rather than push back against it?
7. Proverbs 31:30 reminds us that charm is deceptive and beauty is fleeting, but a woman who fears the Lord is to be praised. What does it look like practically for a woman to build her sense of worth on her relationship with God rather than on outward appearance or cultural recognition?
8. The sermon challenged older women to invest in younger women and model what true godliness looks like. Who in your life has done that for you? What did it mean to you?

God's Order for Church Leadership — 1 Timothy 2:11-12

9. The sermon drew a distinction between women being restricted from the office of elder or pastor and women being restricted from meaningful ministry altogether. Why is that distinction important? How does misunderstanding it harm the church?
10. The sermon listed examples of women in Scripture — Priscilla, Phoebe, and others — who contributed significantly to the early church. How does knowing those examples shape the way you understand this passage?
11. This is a passage where strong feelings often surface. How do you personally navigate the tension between submitting to what Scripture teaches and wrestling honestly with what is difficult or confusing?

Rooted in Creation — 1 Timothy 2:13-14

12. Paul does not appeal to culture or circumstance to explain his instruction. He goes back to Genesis (Gen 1-3). Why does it matter that his reasoning is rooted in creation rather than in a local situation in Ephesus?

13. The sermon observed that Adam's failure in Genesis 3 was not just a failure of obedience but a failure of leadership — he was not standing where he should have been standing. Where do you see that same failure showing up in men today, and what would it look like to reverse it?
14. The sermon closed with this challenge: "All this debate about equality is nothing but a distraction of the devil." Do you agree? How do we engage these conversations in the culture without losing our footing in what God has said?

The Gospel and the Bigger Picture

15. The sermon ended with a reminder that the most important thing is a person's relationship with God through Jesus Christ. How does the gospel shape the way we approach disagreements — even disagreements about passages like this one — within the church?
 16. The sermon described disciple-maker as the most significant role available to every believer, regardless of gender. What would it look like for each person in your group to take that role more seriously this week?
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Practical Applications

For the men in your group:

- Identify one specific way you can lead more intentionally in prayer — in your home, your relationships, or your church community.
- Reflect honestly on whether any unresolved conflict or broken relationship is hindering your prayer life. Take a step toward reconciliation this week.
- Read Psalm 24:3-4 and 1 Peter 3 as part of your personal study this week.

For the women in your group:

- Identify a younger woman in your life whom you could invest in more intentionally. Reach out to her this week.
- Read 1 Peter 3:3-4 and Proverbs 31:30 and spend time reflecting on where you are finding your sense of worth.
- Consider how your outward choices — in dress, in speech, in how you carry yourself — either reflect godliness or draw attention away from it.

For the whole group:

- Discuss together what it would look like for your group to take the Great Commission seriously as disciple-makers. Who are you each investing in outside the walls of the church?
 - Commit to approaching difficult passages of Scripture with the posture of seeking truth rather than defending a position you already hold.
 - Pray together, specifically asking God to help each person in the group submit willingly to his design — not out of obligation, but out of love for the one who gave his life for them.
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Closing Prayer Focus

Ask God to give your group a genuine love for his word — even the parts that are hard. Pray that the men in your group would rise to lead with humility and holiness. Pray that the women in your group would find their worth rooted deeply in Christ and invest that worth in the lives of others. And pray that every person in the room would be marked above all else by a real, growing relationship with Jesus.