

**GOD, GENDER & THE BIBLE**  
CLEMSON FOOTHILLS CHURCH 2020

- I. To begin with, God knows how his plan for gender has been perverted and abused over time. What God has been given as good, we have used as bad.**
  - A. Sin destroys the good God intends
    1. Men can be oppressive and have treated as less intellectual, less capable, and less valuable
    2. The word of God has been used incorrectly to justify mistreatment of women, and minorities.
    3. Our hyper sexualized world still teaches woman are objects, only useful to give pleasure and confidence to men.
    4. True masculinity
    5. As disciples this must not be!
- II. Caution must be exercised though, so we do not “wage war” as the world does.**
  - A. In the world we make wrongs right using “an eye for an eye”
    1. Jumping extremes to make things right
    2. We don’t make decisions based on man’s sinfulness, but rather on God’s righteousness
  - B. This cannot be in the church
  - C. Change in any circumstance
    1. Racial, Gender, Human Trafficking, Environmental or political must be met with the resolve and conviction to follow Jesus, and do things His way
      - a) Proclaiming the gospel
      - b) Call to repentance of sin
      - c) Submission to God in Scripture
      - d) Nurturing a loyal love that gives boldness and clarity to speak to the issues of today.
- III. My hope and aim is that:**
  - A. We establish god’s perspective on gender, family roles, and church roles.
  - B. We are learning how to handle God’s word in a humble and submissive way
  - C. We are building convictions that may not be where our “natural” selves lay.
- IV. Some passages we have studied unfortunately do not give us the “black and white” answers many of us desire.**
  - A. 2 Peter 3:14-16
    1. The complexity of our brother Paul’s writing
  - B. Many of the difficult passages concerning men and women have a context that is specific for our Sunday gathering
    1. Corinthians
    2. 1 Timothy
  - C. A helpful principle
    1. “In essentials unity, in non-essentials liberty, in all things charity”
      - a) Essentials are clear principles



**V. In light of the truth that many situations regarding gender role in the church require individual thought and consideration, here are our guiding principles moving forward**

**A. GOD HAS CALLED MEN TO BEAR PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHRIST-LIKE LEADERSHIP AND TEACHING IN THE CHURCH**

1. Humble men, submissive to God and being held to an account
  - a) 1 Timothy 3:1-13
  - b) Titus 1:5-9
  - c) 1 Timothy 2:12
  - d) Hebrews 13:17
  - e) Matthew 10 - The call of men to be Jesus' apostles
  - f)

**B. Men and Women must both complement each other in the building up of the church**

1. Titus 2:1-8
  - a) Older women teach the younger
  - b) Older men teach the younger men

**C. We acknowledge that both men and women are identified in scripture As missionaries, ministers, co-workers and able to teach in appropriate settings**

1. 1 Timothy 2:12
  - a) Although the command of complete silence of women is taught in regards to specific local church issues, the principle of women not having authority or teaching men is prescribed
  - b) Local church leadership must determine and be responsible for delegating roles amongst the church family

**D. The biblical expectation of the church family is when everyone comes together all should be prepared to give of themselves for the building up of the church**

1. 1 Corinthians 14:26-40 (*Specifically in our corporate gatherings*)
  - a) Everyone comes together to build up the church
  - b) Must be mindful of order as well
    - (1) Disorder, disputes and divisiveness cannot be in God's church
  - c) Biblically we see men and women participating in worship services appropriately
  - d) Men and women may be asked to participate in a worship service but the expectations and appropriateness
    - (1) Humility and submission to God
    - (2) The Spirit of edification
    - (3) Understanding the differences of teaching, authority and sharing to build up.
2. **The goal of our existence as a church family is not to make something of us, rather working together as servants we glorify God, proclaiming and living out the gospel, proclaim his Word and make disciples**
  - a) John 3:30
  - b) Matthew 28:16

**VI. Finally, it is clear to me that our pressing need is development of strong male leadership**

- A. Men to repent of apathy, fear, and shirking of their responsibility as men of God
  1. See Ephesians 5, 1 Timothy 3, Titus 1
- B. Men who embrace humble Servant leadership
- C. Men eager to bear the responsibility of leading the way in Gods church
- D. Men repenting of being "Lone Rangers"

