

## Guidelines for the Gathered Church 1 Timothy 2:8-15

Main Idea: Men should pray in peace and holiness while women dress appropriately, learn with submissiveness, and do not teach Scripture to men or exercise authority over them.

- I. Men should pray in peace and holiness (2:8).
  
- II. Women should dress appropriately, learn with submissiveness, and not teach Scripture to men or exercise authority over them (2:9-15).
  - A. The meaning of the instructions (2:9-12).

<sup>12</sup> **Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to work in quiet fashion and eat their own bread.** 2 Thessalonians 3:12 (NASB)

<sup>26</sup> **and he began to speak out boldly in the synagogue. But when Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they took him aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately.** Acts 18:26 (NASB)

<sup>17</sup> **The elders who rule well are to be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who work hard at preaching and teaching.** 1 Timothy 5:17 (NASB)

<sup>1</sup> **It is a trustworthy statement: if any man aspires to the office of overseer, it is a fine work he desires *to do*.** 1 Timothy 3:1 (NASB)

<sup>5</sup> **For this reason I left you in Crete, that you would set in order what remains and appoint elders in every city as I directed you,** Titus 1:5 (NASB)

- B. The reasons behind the instructions (2:13-15)

<sup>24</sup> **For this reason a man shall leave his father and his mother, and be joined to his wife; and they shall become one flesh.** Genesis 2:24 (NASB)

<sup>23</sup> "For rebellion is as the sin of divination, And insubordination is as iniquity and idolatry. Because you have rejected the word of the Lord, He has also rejected you from *being king*." 1 Samuel 15:23 (NASB)

III. A theory of God's use of gender.

IV. Application Challenges for this passage.

A. Elder Policy on Role of Women at Hope Fellowship.

We affirm both the equal value of men and women as well as recognize that Scripture makes some distinctions as to the roles men and women are to fulfill in the church. Based on where we believe God is leading us at this time in applying the Scriptures at Hope Fellowship we believe the following is the appropriate policy for our church.

- ◆ Women may fully participate in all parts of the worship service except for preaching and teaching the Scriptures (1 Timothy 2:12).
- ◆ All leadership positions except for that of elder are open to both men and women (1 Timothy 3:2; Titus 1:6). The office of elder is limited to men who meet the qualifications listed in Titus 1:5-9 and 1 Timothy 3:1-7.
- ◆ Women may teach outside the worship service except in situations where they are teaching Scripture to men. **“Teaching Scripture” includes teaching where Scripture is the primary or sole content and does not include teaching where the primary content is an extra-Biblical book or other material, even if it is based on Scripture.** Further clarification of this last policy statement for unique situations can be sought from the elders.

B. How is “man” defined vs “boy”?

C. How do these instructions apply to parachurch organizations?