



SEMESTER 1 - WEEK 5

DISCIPLINE 2 - EMBRACING BIBLICAL ROLES

Christ-like Service in the Home

FOUNDATIONS FOR BIBLICAL MARRIAGE

Understanding how we got here:

- Man and woman are created in God's image. - **Genesis 1:26-27**

- Man and woman sinned against God and are separated from God by their sin.
- **Genesis 3; Isaiah 59:2; Romans 6:23**

- Man and woman are hopeless in and of themselves to be what God desires. - **Isaiah 64:6; John 14:6**

- I have hope to honor God because I have hope in Jesus. - **Ephesians 2:10; Titus 2:14, 3:8; I Peter 3:13**

Understanding God's design for men and women:

- Spiritual equality, yet role differentiation
 - **Old Testament: *Spiritual Equality* - Genesis 1:26-27; 3:16-19** Both man and woman are created in the image of God. Neither one has more or less of God's image. Man and woman are both equally totaled by sin (neither one is more sinful than the other).
 - **Old Testament: *Role Differentiation* - Genesis 2:18; I Corinthians 11; I Timothy 2** God created man first, then woman. God had an order in mind when He created them, and this order is linked to their different roles. God both instructs and confronts the first human pair through the man. The order God has designed is linked to our roles but NOT our spiritual equality. The order does not diminish our spiritual equality; it enhances and promotes our roles.
 - **Jesus: *Spiritual Equality*** - Jesus dramatically emphasized a woman's spiritual equality with man in the midst of a woman-demeaning Greek, Roman, and even Jewish culture. Jesus used illustrations and images familiar to and useful for women, **Matthew 13:33, 24:41; Luke 13:20-21, 15:8-10.** Jesus also revealed Himself as Messiah to women, **John 4:25-26.** Jesus taught women directly, **Luke 10:38-42.** Jesus touched women and allowed them to touch Him, **Luke 8:43-48, 13:10-17.** Jesus allowed women to travel with Him and His disciples, **Luke 8:1-3.** After His resurrection, Jesus revealed Himself first to a woman, **John 20:1-18.** All of this is culturally unprecedented!
 - **Jesus: *Role Differentiation*** - Jesus did nothing to exalt women to a place of spiritual leadership over men. If ever there was a time to correct the prior teaching and practice in regard to role differentiation – it was at this time through this Man! But Jesus didn't. Rather, Jesus affirms what revelation has already taught – that women are spiritually equal with men before God (in fact, He elevated this out of the culturally sinful view of His day). Jesus also affirmed the God-given role differentiation from the older Testament as well.



- **New Testament: *Spiritual Equality*** - Women are spiritual equals with men in redemption. Gender was not taken into account when God designed and carried out redemption through Jesus' atoning work, **Galatians 3:28**. Women shared in the struggle of advancing the gospel with Paul, **Philippians 4:2-3**. Wives were to be viewed by their Christian husbands as "fellow heirs of the grace of life", **1 Peter 3:7**.

- **New Testament: *Role Differentiation*** - Paul, under no less inspiration of the Holy Spirit than in the preceding verses, defines different roles for men and women both in the church and in the Christian home, **1 Corinthians 11:1-16, 14:34-36; 1 Timothy 2:8-15; Ephesians 5:22-33; Colossians 3:18-21; 1 Peter 3:1-7**. As sinful genders who have come to taste God's glory and life-transforming work through the cross of Jesus, we see something beautiful and exalted in our biblical manhood and womanhood. We do not tolerate a "patriarchal", outdated view of the genders because that is what our tradition dictates. We embrace the spiritual equality AND the role differentiation given to us by our sovereign God. Why? God has something to reveal about Himself through BOTH our spiritual equality AND our role differentiation. For instance, man and woman (2) give us a simpler picture of who our Triune (3 in 1) God is. There is spiritual equality within the Godhead but role differentiation between Members as well, **1 Corinthians 11:3**. We are eager that God be seen within our church family and our nuclear families as we rejoice in our spiritual equality at the cross as well as obediently embrace these distinct roles He has given us.



Man's Role in the Home:



Woman's Role in the Home:



MINISTRY PASSAGES

DISCIPLINE 2 [THE HOME]

Ephesians 5:22, 25, 33 — Wives and Husbands

- 22 *Wives, be subject to your own husbands, as to the Lord.*
25 *Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself up for her;*
33 *let each individual among you also love his own wife even as himself; and let the wife see to it that she respect her husband.*

1 Corinthians 11:3 — Role Differences Among the Trinity and Men & Women

- 3 *But I want you to understand that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of a woman, and God is the head of Christ.*

Titus 2:1-8 — Instruction for Men and Women

- 1 *But as for you, teach what accords with sound doctrine.*
2 *Older men are to be sober-minded, dignified, self-controlled, sound in faith, in love, and in steadfastness.*
3 *Older women likewise are to be reverent in behavior, not slanderers or slaves to much wine. They are to teach what is good,*
4 *and so train the young women to love their husbands and children,*
5 *to be self-controlled, pure, working at home, kind, and submissive to their own husbands, that the word of God may not be reviled.*
6 *Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled.*
7 *Show yourself in all respects to be a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, dignity,*
8 *and sound speech that cannot be condemned, so that an opponent may be put to shame, having nothing evil to say about us.*



DISCIPLINE 2 [THE HOME]

QUESTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION

1. Is there anything in your thinking regarding the biblical roles of men and women that needs to change in response to God's Word?

2. Are there any areas in your God-given role where you have been negligent? How might you pursue growth or further obedience in this area?

