

# Women in Ministry – Who says women shouldn't be in ministry?

## 1. Focus

- **Theme:** Exploring what God's Word says about women in leadership and ministry roles.
- **Central Question:** *Will we allow half of the human race to minister, or not?*
- **Prayer Focus:** Invite the Holy Spirit to reveal truth, give light, and open our hearts to receive from God's Word.

## 2. Key Teaching Points

### A. The Heart of the Issue

- Women in ministry is a serious and timely topic.
- The Holy Spirit does not discriminate against gender.
- Biblical examples that show women in significant ministry roles.

### B. The Need for Biblical Clarity

- It is not enough to rely on culture, tradition, or logic.
- The ultimate question: **What does the Lord say?**
- The Bible, not personal preference or denominational background, must guide our convictions.

### C. The Weight of Evidence

- The two scriptures that are often used to *try* to restrict women from being in ministry or preaching.
- 1 Corinthians 14:34–35 KJV Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience as also saith the law. 35 And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.

- 1 Timothy 2:11–12 KJV Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. 12 But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.
- However, scripture shows God using women powerfully in leadership and teaching. The real issue is how we interpret Scripture— are Paul’s words universal commands, or pastoral instructions to specific situations?

## D. The Stakes Are High

- The global mission field requires “all hands on deck.”
- Excluding women means sidelining half the Body of Christ.
- Historically, women have carried much of the work of ministry, missions, and church life.

## 3. Fellow Teachers of The Word

The teaching was supported by scholars:

- **Dr. Jim Adams** – Professor, pastoral leader, and theologian.
- **Dr. Clayton Robinson** – Longtime pastor, professor, and church planter.
- **Dr. Stephen Schill** – Pastor, teacher, and leader within the Foursquare Church.

They highlighted that:

- Some texts *seem* restrictive but are often taken out of context.
- Women have always been active in God’s mission.
- God clearly blesses, anoints, and works through women in ministry.

## 4. The Scriptures in Question

### 1. 1 Corinthians 14:34–35 (KJV)

“Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church.”

## 2. 1 Timothy 2:11–12 (KJV)

“Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence.”

- **Challenge:** These appear to forbid women in ministry.
- **Approach:** Study the *context, culture, and intent* of Paul’s words.
- **Guiding Question:** Are these **pastoral instructions** for specific churches or **universal commands** for all time?

## 5. Study Sessions Outline

This series will be taught in 7 weeks includes our introduction (Oct 18th):

1. **Introduction:** Who says women shouldn’t be in ministry?
2. **Week 1:** The Weight of Scriptural Evidence – Does Scripture overall support or prohibit women in leadership?
3. **Week 2:** God’s Endorsement of Women Leaders
4. **Week 3:** God Confirms Authority
5. **Week 4:** Women Prophecy and Testify
6. **Week 5:** Women Co-Laborers Part 1
7. **Week 6:** Women Co-Laborers Part 2

## 6. Discussion Questions

1. Why is the issue of women in ministry still so controversial today?
2. How have you personally seen God use women in ministry roles?
3. What dangers arise when we let tradition, culture, or preference outweigh Scripture?

## 7. Reflection & Application

- **Personal Reflection:** Am I open to receive God's Word even if it challenges my tradition or opinion?
- **Application:** Commit to examining Scripture with humility, asking the Holy Spirit to reveal God's truth.
- **Prayer Focus:** Pray for women in ministry today, that they would be encouraged, strengthened, and fully released into their God-given calling.

## 8. Sticky Statement

*“The question is not **can women minister?** The question is **will we allow half the Body of Christ to be silenced when God has clearly called and anointed them?**”*

## 9) Memory Verse:

“In Christ there is neither male nor female... for you are all one in Christ Jesus.” – Galatians 3:28

## 10)Notes: