



Going Deeper Questions
Women Be Silent in the Church
Brynn Harrington and Ethan May

Sermon Scripture Passage

1 Cor. 11:2-16; 14:34-35

Fun icebreaker question

Share about one female hero you admire.

Discipleship Cycle: Debrief & Interpret

How did you experience or observe individual or communal gifts this last week?

Quick Review: What stood out to you from this week's passage?

Looking back at your notes from this week's passage and sermon, was there anything you heard for the first time or that caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

My Story

1) As you consider your own upbringing (within and beyond the Church), what messages were you given explicitly about gender roles?

2) What messages have you been given or observed implicitly in the Church or our culture about gender roles? Have you ever felt that your opportunities or the expectations placed on you were influenced by your gender? In the

workplace? In society? In the church?

3) Did you ever question the messages you received? How did these messages impact how you saw your own gifts, calling, and identity? What about the gifts, calling, and identity of others?

Dive Deeper

1) Read 1 Corinthians 11:2-16. Why is context important to passages like this one?

2) Consider Paul's argument (especially in light of 1 Cor. 10:23-33). What is Paul's line of thought here?

3) What is the meaning of Paul's instructions about head coverings and hairstyles in this passage?

4) What was so important about 1 Cor. 11:11-12 and the phrase "Nevertheless, in the Lord woman is not independent from man, nor is man independent from woman. For as woman came from man, so also man is born of woman. But everything comes from God" when it comes to how we approach gender roles?

5) Why did Paul say that "Women should be silent in the church" in 1 Cor. 14:34-35?

6) How did Jesus and Paul empower women in their life and ministries? Why does this matter?

7) How is this passage relevant to today? What is the impact of women and men serving God together?

8) The sermon mostly focused on women in leadership in society and in the

church, but men have often been put in boxes as well. How have you observed this?

9) How can women and men encourage one another to live into their gifts and callings? How can you advocate and encourage everyone to live into their gifts - not just in the Church but in your day to day life? Why does this matter?

Discipleship Cycle: Respond Actively

This week, find a way to encourage a girl or woman that you know in her giftedness. Tell her what you admire about her strengths and ask if there are ways you can support her in living into her calling.

A special question for couples and families

"Girls who have had a direct example of clergy-women in childhood grow up with higher self-esteem, better employment records, and more education than girls who did not, according to research by Benjamin Knoll and Cammie Jo Bolen. When girls have had female clergy at least some of the time growing up, their later reported levels of self-esteem are consistently as high as men's, even though generally women report lower levels of self-esteem. In the survey, a gender gap in psychological and economic empowerment is present only among those whose religious congregational leaders growing up were exclusively men."

[\(https://religionnews.com/2018/07/17/its-good-for-girls-to-have-clergywomen-study-shows/\)](https://religionnews.com/2018/07/17/its-good-for-girls-to-have-clergywomen-study-shows/)

The article shows research indicating the girls benefit from seeing female clergy, but to expand that thought, why is it important for girls to see female leaders when they are kids? What about boys?

How can we encourage our kids to understand their own leadership potential and gifting and also recognize and celebrate the leadership potential and gifting of those around them?
