

THE CHURCH BEAUTIFUL MESS

A STUDY ON 1 CORINTHIANS



Freed for Unity
1 Corinthians 11:2-16
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Galatians 3:27-29

For those of you who were baptized into Christ have been clothed with Christ. 28 There is no Jew or Greek, slave or free, male and female; since you are all one in Christ Jesus. 29 And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's seed, heirs according to the promise.



Freed for Unity

(Addressing gender roles in the church)

1 Corinthians 11:2-16



- 1. Timeless Truths**
- 2. Cultural Customs**



When interpreting scripture:

Step 1: Grasp the Text in Their Town

Step 2: Measure the Width of the River to Cross

Step 3: Cross the Godly Principle-Bridges

Step 4: Consider the Whole Biblical Map

Step 5: Grasp the Text in Our Town



Freed for Unity

(Addressing gender roles in the church)

1 Corinthians 11:2-16



Driving Principle:

God has a design that He is calling the church to EMBRACE, so that there would be TRUE FREEDOM within a unified expression of glory and worship to God.



1 Corinthians 10:23-24

“Everything is permissible,” but not everything builds up. 24 No one is to seek his own good, but the good of the other person.



When addressing gender roles in the church:

1. **Embrace what is most important.**

Now I praise you because you remember me in everything and hold fast to the traditions just as I delivered them to you.



When addressing gender roles in the church:

2. **Embrace God's order of headship.**

But I want you to know that Christ is the head of every man, and the man is the head of the woman, and God is the head of Christ. 4 Every man who prays or prophesies with something on his head dishonors his head. 5 Every woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head, since that is one and the same as having her head shaved. 6 For if a woman doesn't cover her head, she should have her hair cut off. But if it is disgraceful for a woman to have her hair cut off or her head shaved, let her head be covered.



Headship of men:

Men have the distinct call and responsibility from Christ to spiritually serve as instruments that lead and protect the whole body of the church. Woman are called and responsible to honor that leadership.



Driving Principle:

God has a design that, through Paul, He is calling the men and women of the church in Corinth to embrace, so that there would be true freedom within a UNIFIED expression of glory and worship to God.



When addressing gender roles in the church:

3. Embrace God's creative intention for men and women.

7 A man should not cover his head, because he is the image and glory of God. So too, woman is the glory of man. 8 For man did not come from woman, but woman came from man. 9 Neither was man created for the sake of woman, but woman for the sake of man. 10 This is why a woman should have a symbol of authority on her head, because of the angels.



When addressing gender roles in the church:

4. Embrace that men and women are equally dependent upon each other and equally dependent upon God.

11 In the Lord, however, woman is not independent of man, and man is not independent of woman. 12 For just as woman came from man, so man comes through woman, and all things come from God.



When addressing gender roles in the church:

5. Embrace that men are men and women are women.

13 Judge for yourselves: Is it proper for a woman to pray to God with her head uncovered? 14 Does not even nature itself teach you that if a man has long hair it is a disgrace to him, 15 but that if a woman has long hair, it is her glory? For her hair is given to her as a covering. 16 If anyone wants to be contentious about this, we have no other custom, nor do the churches of God.