

REALife Application

Does God care about gender?* 1 Cor 11:2-16

Three Approaches

1. Hierarchical: Chauvinism
2. Egalitarian: Feminism
3. Complementarian: Chivalry

The Problem: Men and Women blurring gender distinctions in public worship.

- Hats or Hairstyle? V.4-7
- Long or Short? V 13-16

The Principals:

1. True worship must honor the values of the one who is worshipped. V 4
2. God created gender differences to reflect the Trinity. V 3
 - Equality in essence and worth. V 11-12
 - Different in function. V 7
3. Men and women must embrace their functional responsibilities in the home and the church. V 7

Use the following questions this week to reflect on what it would mean to align yourself with the truths taught in Scripture. Each question is meant for both personal reflection and as a catalyst for discussion with your family, friends, or REALife Group.

1. Why is the issue of gender such an important topic for our world today? What have you personally adopted as your view on gender roles and distinctions? Who have been your role models?
2. Are there ways that Christians “blur” the gender distinctions in public worship today? How does 1 Cor 11:2-16 influence your view of worship?
3. In what ways do you see the male female relationship in Gen 2:18-24.? Reflect on the Trinity? See John 12:27-28, Luke 22:41-44, John 17:1-5. What does it look like to be equal in worth and essence but different in role and function?
4. How can we as a church honor God by promoting both masculine and feminine roles and responsibilities within the church?

Memory Verse

Now I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God.

1 Corinthians 11:3

**Eighteenth* in the 1st Corinthians series, by Pastor Tim Hawks
CDs of this message (08/31/08) may be purchased at the
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