

THE BIBLE SAYS WHAT?

WEEK 1 — Should women be silent in the church?

SERMON RECAP:

This weekend, we kicked off our new sermon series, *The Bible Says What?!*, by diving straight into a controversial topic. "Should women be silent in the church?" is a question that elicits various opinions by Christ-followers. Pastor Derwin walked us through this topic with care, helping us understand the biblical value that women have.

There are many verses throughout scripture that can be difficult to understand when taken out of context or misinterpreted. Some people believe women can't speak or teach in the church because of verses like 1 Timothy 2:12 and 1 Corinthians 14:33-35. However, when we slow down and interpret verses in light of the biblical narrative as a whole, we see their meaning more clearly. Instead of declaring that women should stay quiet in the church, these verses are actually correcting the gentile females that converted from Artemis worship.

Further, God declares that women and men are both made in His image, created to be equal while also being distinct. Female value is seen throughout the Old and New Testaments, lived out by women leaders such as Deborah, Esther, Mary, and Phoebe. Women even spent time with Jesus and His disciples during His earthly ministry. The equality and value of women is emphasized in many scriptural texts, such as in Paul's letter to the church of Galatia: "For those of you who were baptized into Christ have been clothed with Christ. There is no Jew or Greek, slave or free, *male and female*; since you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:27-28 CSB, emphasis added).

When we see women as made in the image of God, worthy of speaking and teaching, and of value to Jesus, we are able to celebrate the beautiful contributions they make to the kingdom of God. Honoring God and loving our neighbors compassionately includes honoring women for who they are and what they bring to the table, not expecting them to remain silent.

Soul tattoo: Women are a gift in the body of Christ!

Action step: Submit a question for our upcoming live Q&A with Dr. Frank Turek.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

UPWARD

- Why does it matter to God that we view women correctly?
- What questions does this sermon bring up for you? Ask God to help you understand His Word. Share these questions with your TC group, mentor, or friend.

INWARD

- Have you believed the misconception that women shouldn't teach or speak in the church? If so, how might you begin to shift your perspective?
- How can you be more intentional about learning from the women around you?

OUTWARD

- Think of a woman who has brought value to your life and helped you know Jesus more. How can you honor and thank her today?