

GOD SAID WHAT?

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Week 4 – Is Christianity a Boy's Club?

Introduction:

This series is based on some of the topics in the book *How (Not) to Read the Bible* by Dan Kimball. You can order the book here →



SCAN ME

God's (Extremely) High View of Women...

1) In the Original _____

Genesis 1:27-28; Genesis 3:16b

2) Throughout the _____

Miriam (Micah 6:4)
Deborah, Huldah, Proverbs 31, Esther, Ruth, etc.

3) In the ministry of _____

The woman at the well
The woman caught in adultery
The women who discover the empty tomb
The women in His close circle of disciples (Mary, Martha, etc.)

4) In the life of the _____

Peter's sermon quoting Joel the prophet (Acts 2:14-18)
Paul's ministry teams (Lydia, Euodia, Syntyche, Priscilla, Phoebe, Junia, etc.)

The Big Idea:

The trajectory of Scripture is clear: God created women equal to men and with distinct abilities and characteristics as well, and verses about women being silent, etc. were given in a local context addressing realities specific to that context, as we shall see when we study 2 Timothy 2...

QUESTIONS FOR LIFE GROUPS AND PERSONAL REFLECTION:

Personal Life:

1. If you grew up in the church, what kind of roles were you most accustomed to seeing women serve in?
2. Describe a woman in the church or in your personal life who God used to shape and form your understanding of Him.

Ponderings:

3. Why do you think some Christians equate women serving in high levels of church leadership with “compromising” the Scripture? Why is it so important to be diligent to study Scripture through a historical, grammatical and contextual lens rather than yanking isolated verses out of context? Discuss...
4. Regardless of your opinion on whether Scripture includes women in the role of pastors or elders, why is it important for the church to be dedicated to Scripture on issues like this, regardless of what our culture (either religious culture OR secular culture) may say?
5. Read Peter's words in Acts 2:14-18 as a group, and then respectfully dialogue about the following questions...
 - Why would Paul say that women should be silent in the church, when Peter affirms that in the New Covenant, women will be gifted to prophesy (preach and proclaim) messages from the Lord?
 - Why would Paul say that women should not “have authority over” men in the church, yet allow Apollos to be discipled by Priscilla and esteem women like Phoebe as a deacon and Junia as an apostle?

Promptings:

6. How can we help our critical or skeptical friends understand that the Bible is not in any way sexist, yet affirm that equality does not imply that men and women are identical? Regardless of your gender, how have you worked to elevate and honor the women in your life?