

# QUESTIONS YOU HOPE THEY DON'T ASK

## *"Is the Bible Sexist?"*

(Ephesians 5:22-24)

- Introduction:**
1. It was just over 100 years ago that the fruits of the suffrage movement gave women the rights to vote.
  2. But, like a pendulum, sometimes the pendulum swings too far.
  3. We live in a country that is obsessed with issues relating to sex, gender, and personal rights.
  4. So, it is not surprising that some people think the Bible is a misogynist book containing antiquated ideas.
  5. Consider how Ephesians 5:22-24 would be received today.
  6. Reminder – 2 Timothy 4:3-4.
  7. The root of the problem is that our culture tries to force the Bible to reflect our values, rather than allowing the Bible to shape our values.

### I. **Egalitarianism or Complementarianism**

- A. Egalitarianism.
  1. Contends that men and woman are completely equal in every way.
  2. (Genesis 1:27; Galatians 3:28).
- B. Complementarianism.
  1. Contends that men and women are equal, but serve in different and complementary roles.
  2. (1 Peter 3:1,7; Ephesians 5:22-33).
- C. Which is correct?
  1. It is true that God values all people the same, he does give them different roles to fulfill, not only between men and women, but men and men.

### II. **Examination of several passages.**

- A. (Galatians 3:28).
  1. Does this passage teach that all humans have equal roles or equal worth?
  2. If the former, what about elders' qualifications, deacons qualifications, men not being able to have babies, women not being able to impregnate someone, etc.
- B. (Numbers 16).
  1. The failure of Korah was that he thought since all were equal in value, they should have the same responsibilities.
  2. He was dramatically shown to be wrong.
- C. (1 Corinthians 11; 14; 1 Timothy 2).
  1. These passages teach a gender-based role distinction.
  2. But this gender-based role distinction is not based on culture, but creation order.

- Conclusion:**
1. I really think we need to regain balance when discussing the role of women.
  2. Most lessons on the role of women are about what she cannot do, rather than what she can do.
  3. Women have a place in ministry, it's just different in a few ways from how men are to minister.
  4. Women can teach (Titus 2:2-5; Acts 18:25-26), they can bear the fruit of the Spirit in their lives (Galatians 5:22-23), they can worship (John 4:24), and they can serve (Romans 16:1).
  5. The Bible affirms that men and women are equal in value and different in function.