

- Is Christianity Anti-Women? -

Ice-Breaker:

Describe how you were raised to regard women and their place in society. How does upbringing and culture still influence your view of women?

Discussion:

1. Read 1 Corinthians 11:2-16.

- What is your first impression of what Paul is saying in this passage?
- Whom does Paul assume is praying and/or prophesying in the church at Corinth? What are his instructions about this?
- What is Paul communicating about men and women in verses 11-12?

2. Read I Corinthians 11:14 and Judges 13:5. The Nazarite vow (taken by Samson and others) commanded a man to let his hair grow long. How do you think cultural implications might reconcile these two passages?

3. Read Galatians 3:28. What does Paul mean when he says: “there is neither male nor female?”

4. Genesis 1:27-28 and Genesis 3:16.

- Who is created in the image of God?
- What is God’s original design for men and women?
- What evokes the curse that is put upon women in Genesis 3:16?

5. Read Genesis 2:18; Psalm 33:20

- Why did God create woman?
- What negative connotations does the word “helper” often carry in our minds today?
- Who is the helper in Psalm 33:20? How does this impact the way we should understand Genesis 2:18?

6. Read Ephesians 5:21-33 and note the mutual submission mentioned in Ephesians 5:21.

- In what ways are wives called to serve and submit to their husbands?
- In what ways are husbands called to serve and submit to their wives?

Application:

- How is the role of women relative to men a topic that is relevant to you personally?
- In light of what you learned from the message, what needs to be changed in your life (a relationship, a perspective, or an attitude) with respect to women?