

## **Manhood and Womanhood: In the Home and the Church Pastors and Deacons**

### **Women in the Church**

**In the New Testament, women are powerful, important, gifted members of the church. They have a massive influence on the success of the church's ministries. They are received as the spiritual co-equals they are and joyfully greeted with warm fellowship in the epistles. Women were precious to Jesus and vital supporters his ministry, and that same spirit continues with the apostles and the church.**

**But just as in the home where women are of equal worth and gifting to their husbands yet with a different role, in the NT church women are not called nor permitted to fill all the same roles as the men in the church.**

### **1 Timothy 2:12-14**

I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. <sup>13</sup>For Adam was formed first, then Eve; <sup>14</sup>and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor.

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**The principle for discernment in all our ministry:**

**A local church should not put women in authority or teaching roles over men.**

### **Colossians 3:23-24**

Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, <sup>24</sup> knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ.

**If we truly embrace the biblical complementarian view of the home, we must also embrace a parallel and supporting situation in the church.**

**The ultimate justification that fuels women taking leadership and teaching roles over men in the church is not biblical precedent but a culturally compromised view of male headship in the home.**

**A church that allows women to function in leadership roles over men is already on a path of compromise that is hurting homes by discouraging male headship and women helpship.**

**The leadership structure in the church is serious business!**

### **1 Timothy 3:1-3**

The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. <sup>2</sup> Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, <sup>3</sup> not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money.

### **1 Timothy 3:4-5**

He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, <sup>5</sup> for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church?

### **1 Timothy 3:6-7**

He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. <sup>7</sup> Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

### **1 Timothy 3:8-10**

Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. <sup>9</sup> They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. <sup>10</sup> And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless.

### **1 Timothy 3:11-13**

Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. <sup>12</sup> Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. <sup>13</sup> For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

### **Observations About Pastors and Deacons:**

- 1. Pastors and deacons are the only two New Testament “offices” in the local church.**
- 2. Pastors and deacons do not have the same responsibilities.**

**Pastors are under-shepherds of Jesus, the Good Shepherd, who serve the church by leading, feeding, protecting, and caring for the flock.**

**Deacons are under-stewards of Jesus and the pastors who serve the church by organizing ministry to tangible needs among the body.**

**Our serving of communion models the complementarian relationship between pastors and deacons in the service of the church.**

(Observations on pastors and deacons from 1 Timothy 3 to be continued in next week's sermon)