

Reason #5: The Church Represses Women

Romans 16:1-7

INTRODUCTION QUESTIONS:

1. Share with your group your view in regards to women and their roles in the Church? Has this sermon changed or confirmed your viewpoint on that? If so, share how.

DIGGING DEEPER

1. **Read Romans 16:1-6.** How does this passage support the critical role of women in the first century church as co-workers and hosts for Christian house churches? In what ways do women continue to serve these important roles today?
2. Read **Genesis 1:27-28** and **Galatians 3:26-28.** How do these passages support the equality of genders, both inside and outside the church?
3. Read **1 Timothy 2:11-14.** This passage is often misused to describe the ministry limitations of women. Does this apply to 2021? Was Paul a misogynist? Why did he write these words? What was the historical/cultural context?
4. Heather shared some upsetting incidents, where women have been treated inappropriately. What are some ways that our church could help to rectify such incidents?
5. Kathy Keller, wife of Tim Keller and author of “Jesus, Justice and Gender Roles” said, “The shameful fact is that in many churches the Scriptures have been interpreted so as to prevent women from exercising many, if not most, of the gifts of leadership and teaching, exhortation, encouragement, and so on, that the Holy Spirit has given to them. Not only does this disenfranchise half the church; it amputates the body of Christ.” Do you agree or disagree with this statement? Share your reasons for your answer.

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. Encourage your group to check out the reading list related to this week’s sermon topic, available on The Chapel’s website. Be willing to learn and grow!
2. End your group in prayer. Pray for The Chapel’s leadership, and specifically, for the new “Board Advisors” who are women. Pray for their wisdom and guidance as they serve in this role.