



**Questions & Answers From The Bible
Sunday Night Series**

The
Role of Women
in the Church



ARE WOMEN PASTORS BIBLICAL?

**IS IT BIBLICAL FOR A WOMAN TO WORK ?
(outside the home)**

**IS IT BIBLICAL TO PUT YOUR CHILD IN A
DAYCARE, SINCE THE WOMAN IS TO BE
THE KEEPER OF THE HOME?**

**HOW / WHAT ARE THE OLDER WOMEN TO
TEACH THE YOUNGER WOMEN?**

ARE WOMEN PASTORS BIBLICAL?

I. The Authority of Scripture: The foundation of any theological discussion lies in the authority of Scripture. The Word of God provides a basis for examining the position against women pastors.

Key Verses:

1 Timothy 3:1-2 *This is a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach;*

1 Timothy 2:11-12 - *"Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence."*

1 Corinthians 14:34-35 - *"Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience as also saith the law."*

IS IT BIBLICAL FOR A WOMAN TO WORK?

Proverbs 31 speaks of “**a virtuous woman.**” Starting at verse 11, the writer praises this woman as one who does everything in her power to care for her family. She works hard to keep her house and her family in order.

The Bible nowhere forbids a woman from working outside the home.

However, the Bible does teach what a woman’s priorities are to be. If working outside the home causes a woman to neglect her children and husband, then it is wrong for that woman to work outside the home.

IS IT BIBLICAL FOR A WOMAN TO WORK ? (outside the home)

If a Christian woman can work outside the home and still provide a loving, caring environment for her children and husband, then it is perfectly acceptable for her to do so.

Women who work outside the home should not be condemned, and neither should women who focus on the stewardship of the home be treated with condescension.

IS IT BIBLICAL TO PUT YOUR CHILD IN A DAYCARE, SEEING AS THE WOMAN IS TO BE THE KEEPER OF THE HOME?

Although the Bible teaches that parents bear the primary responsibility to raise their children, parents are not required to do it alone. There may be others involved in the raising and teaching of our children.

All parents need assistance in this task.

While parents have a God-given duty to care for their children, it is not their exclusive calling. God calls able-bodied adults to work to earn a living.

Children are spoken of as a blessing in Scripture.

Children are entrusted to us by God and should never be seen as a distraction from career goals or bucket lists, nor as objects or pets, but are to be nurtured in a complete way – spiritually, emotionally, socially, and physically.

The truth that children are exclusively spoken of as a blessing in Scripture should inform all our discussions on parenting and child-care.

TOP FIVE REASONS TO CONSIDER A CHRISTIAN DAYCARE

1. Consistent Character

Proverbs 22:6 says, *"Train up a child in the way that he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."*

2. Education From a Christian Perspective

As your child begins to learn about the world, a Christian daycare will teach them from a Biblical worldview.

3. Learning the Bible

A Christian daycare will help your child become more familiar with the Bible by teaching your child from it, helping them memorize Bible verses, and encouraging prayer.

4. Christian Role Models

Parents are a child's primary role model, followed by their Sunday school teachers and in later life, their teachers. A Christian daycare is a perfect place for them to consistently see an authority figure acting in love and patience.

5. Living Every Day for God

With its teaching, role models, and values, a Christian daycare is a perfect way to show your child that being a Christian isn't just about going to church on Sunday.

HOW / WHAT ARE THE OLDER WOMEN TO TEACH THE YOUNGER WOMEN?

Titus 2:4

That they may teach the young women to be sober,

Or to be **chaste, modest,** and **temperate;** to be **wise and prudent** in their conduct to their husbands and in the management of family affairs.

HOW / WHAT ARE THE OLDER WOMEN TO TEACH THE YOUNGER WOMEN?

To Love their Husbands – It is interesting that the younger women are to be taught to love their husbands. Surely a wife loves her husband when she marries him.

But maintaining and developing this love is something that takes effort. Too many marriages fall apart because couples have grown apart.

HOW / WHAT ARE THE OLDER WOMEN TO TEACH THE YOUNGER WOMEN?

To Love their Children – Most women who have children love them, but the fact that the older women were to teach the young women to love their children implies that Paul has a certain type of love in mind. Paul spoke of the love a mother has and shows toward her child to illustrate his concern.

1 Thess. 2:7

But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children:

This type of personal, nurturing affection and attention is what the older women were to teach the young women.

To Be Discreet – The word means... **prudent**; *wise in avoiding evil and in selecting the best means to achieve a purpose; to be self-controlled, sober-minded; cautious; not rash.*

Young women, like anyone else, can be led into sin and to forsake their God-given responsibilities. The older women must teach the young women to exercise control over their actions, thoughts, and emotions.

To Be Chaste – This word here means **pure** or **modest**. This involves “*chaste conversation coupled with fear*” (**1 Peter 3:2**) by which she brings glory to God, not to herself. It is common for worldly women to judge themselves and others based upon the clothes that they wear, etc.

The older women must teach the young women that expensive, fancy, and costly array is **not** important. Instead, they should focus on developing “... ***the hidden man of the heart, in that which is not corruptible, even the ornament of a meek and quiet spirit, which is in the sight of God of great price.***” (1 Peter 3:4).

To Be Keepers (Workers) at Home – "Keepers at home" are usually "workers at home." The older women must teach the young women about domestic responsibilities in order to help train them to be... *"domestically inclined ("good housekeeper")* Titus 2:5.

To Be Good – Kindness involves showing love and doing good toward others. Humility is involved in this because in order to show kindness, a woman must follow:

Philippians 2:3-4

Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

The older women must teach the young women to show kindness and do good to others.

To Be Obedient To Their Own Husbands

The thought that a woman is to be subject and obedient to her husband is ridiculed and attacked by many in our society.

Women are taught by society that there is no such thing as different roles for men and women, even though the Scriptures describe distinct roles for husbands and wives (**Ephesians 5:22-25**).

1 Corinthians 11:3 *“But I would have you know, that the head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man...”*

Colossians 3:18 *“Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as it is fit in the Lord.”*

The older women must teach the young women to **submit** to their husbands (1 Peter 3:1), **respect** them (Ephesians 5:33), and **fulfill their role** of *“an help meet for him”* (**Genesis 2:18**).

WOMEN IN MINISTRY

1 Peter 5:1-4 details the qualifications for an elder. *Presbuteros* is the Greek word used sixty-six times in the New Testament to indicate “seasoned male overseer.” It is the masculine form of the word. The feminine form, *presbutera*, is never used in reference to elders or shepherds.

Based on the qualifications found in **1 Timothy 3:1-7**, the role of an elder is interchangeable with the bishop/pastor/overseer (**Titus 1:6-9**; **1 Peter 5:1-3**). And since, according to **1 Timothy 2:12**, a woman should not “*usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence*,” it seems clear that the position of elders and pastors—who must be equipped to teach, lead the congregation, and oversee their spiritual growth (**1 Timothy 3:2**)—should be reserved for men only.

Women have always played a significant role in the growth of the church, even being among the few who witnessed the crucifixion of Christ when most of the disciples had run away (**Matt. 27:55; John 19:25**).

The apostle Paul held women in high regard, and in many of his letters to the churches he greeted specific women by name (**Romans 16:6, 12; Colossians 4:15; Philippians 4:2-3; Philemon 1:2**).

Paul addresses these women as "co-workers," and they clearly served the Lord to the benefit of the whole church (**Phil. 4:3; Col. 4:15**).

There is no scriptural precedent that forbids women from serving as treasurers, teachers, administrators, lady-leaders, youth workers, or children's directors.

The only restriction is that they do not assume a role of spiritual authority over adult men.

Since the concern in Scripture appears to be the issue of spiritual authority rather than function, any role that does not bestow such spiritual authority over adult men is permissible.

IN THE BEGINNING, DID GOD HAVE HELP IN MAKING MAN?

Genesis 1:26

- And God said, Let us make man in our image, after our likeness: and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the fowl of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creepeth upon the earth.