

Sunday, February 23, 2020 - "You Asked For It - Week 8 - Why Is The Bible So Down On Women?" - Doug Kempton

Key Passages: Genesis 2:18, Psalm 121:1-2, Psalm 124:8, 1 Timothy 2:12, Ephesians 5:21-25

- Feel free to read the passage(s) out loud as a group
- Allow the group to share freely about what stood out to them from the passage or from Sunday's message

Main Ideas

- Is it a sin to drink alcohol?
 - Ephesians 5:18. 1 Timothy 5:23 (Timothy told to drink a little, but we are instructed not to drink in excess)
 - What is the wise thing for you to do? (this is different for different people)
- Why is the Bible so down on women? -> there is a myth/false dichotomy that exists
- False Narrative starts in Genesis (men and women are both created to be the image of God)
 - Genesis 2:18 ("I will make him a helper")
 - Helper is the word EZER which means support in times of hardship or distress
 - This word is used most to describe God (Psalm 121:1-2, Psalm 124:8)
 - Women are not "little helpers" but rather integral to all of us and to the church
- We are only complete as a body of believers when male and female are living out their giftings...BUT this doesn't mean you need to be married to be complete
- 1 Timothy 2:12 (perpetuating the false narrative)
 - On the surface this verse is very demeaning to women
 - But the word authority in this passage would of meant "to originate with ones own hand"
 - There was a culture in this place/time that worshipped Artemis and emphasized the feminine and devalued the masculine...Paul was setting straight a spiritual stronghold (women believed that men should be subservient to them because by giving birth women gave origin to men and should have authority)
- The bible is not down on women
 - The Story of Jesus
 - The first evangelist was the woman at the well in John 4:28-30
 - The first person to proclaim the risen Jesus (the Gospel) was Mary and she told the disciples
 - Jesus gave women a voice
 - Acts 18:24-26 (Priscilla lead the way in **teaching** a man the way of God more correctly)
- Male and Female are equal but different (there is a difference and a value to feminine and masculine characteristics)
- Ephesians 5:21-25 **SUBMIT TO ONE ANOTHER**
 - The heading "wives and husbands" is not actually in the text
 - v22 and 25 are the how to live out v21
 - Men submitted to their wives and women submitted to their husbands
 - v23 - What are the implications of headship
 - In the world authority comes from power and control
 - But in the way of Jesus, those called to lead are called to serve (Luke 22:25-27)
 - Husbands are called to "go and serve your wives. out-serve your wives"
 - Not to take the lead in making decisions
- Male elders at Grace are called to be defenders and protectors BUT decisions about the church are made with women involved in the process
- Ephesians 4:29 - Building others up...men and women

Questions (Feel free to use all of these, some of these, or none of these)

1. How have you seen God use men and women living out their giftings together?
2. What has God taught you about men and women submitting to one another?
3. What does the idea of headship mean to you? How does it play out in your life?
4. How is God calling you to shift your thinking on men and women in your home? Your church? Your life?
5. How have you heard from What is God inviting you into as a result of this passage or sermon?

****15 Minutes with God Reading Plan-**

Mon: Lamentations 4 Tues: Lamentations 5 Wed: Psalm 51:1-17 Thurs: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 Fri: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Songs from the weekend: [Great Jehovah - *Travis Greene*] - [Everlasting God - *William Murphy*] - [Jesus We Love You - *Isabel Davis/Bethel Music*] - [What A Beautiful Name - *Hillsong Worship*]