

Prayer List



Of Our Number

- ♦ Janice Carnley—Shoal Creek
- ♦ Florene Howze—health problems
- ♦ Donna Parish—ankle improving
- ♦ Brenda Ray—eye problems
- ♦ Jim Ward—health problems

Others in Need

- ♦ Janet Andrews—cancer
- ♦ Kallie Autmann—severe burns
- ♦ Belinda Crawford—eye issues
- ♦ Bob Duke—health problems
- ♦ Randy Emerson—broken leg
- ♦ Freddie English—kidney issues
- ♦ Anna Erickson—improving; undergoing tests
- ♦ Jerry Madden—improving
- ♦ Brenda Mateer—stage 4 cancer
- ♦ Thad McCall—health problems
- ♦ Mary Milsted—lung cancer
- ♦ Bernice Mortello—not doing well
- ♦ Merle Moss—heart bypass
- ♦ Bobby Williams—brain tumor

Continued in next column...

surgery 2/26

- ♦ Roy Wooten—skin cancer
- ♦ Maureen Zephaniah—improving
- ♦ Those mourning, public servants, gov. leaders, military, those traveling, alien sinners, those fallen away, our enemies, and the church worldwide.

To Our Visitors



We are happy and honored that you are here! Please fill out a visitor's card and give us a chance to get to know you. If you have any questions about anything said or done in Bible class or worship, please ask. We seek to give a Bible answer for everything we do (Colossians 3:17; 1 Peter 3:15; 4:11).

Events



March 1

Fellowship Meal after AM Worship

May 3-8

Our Gospel Meeting with Joel Wheeler preaching

Privileged to Serve



Announcements—Glenn Howze
Song Leading—David Howze (Sun.)
 Mark Howze (Wed.)

Serving the Lord's Supper
 Head: Mark Howze
 Helpers: Justin Derrick, Wilfred Derrick, Caleb Howze

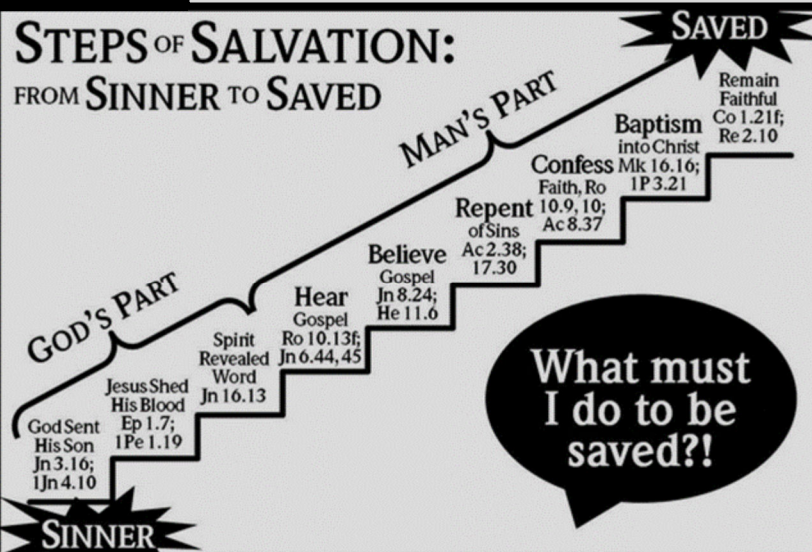
Lord's Supper PM
 Head: Leo Derrick
 Helper: Ethan Howze

Scripture Reading—Braden Hilburn

Faithful Worship — **1) Praying** to God the Father in the name of Jesus Christ (Luke 11:1-2; John 16:23; Eph. 5:20; Phil. 4:6); **2) Singing** without mechanical instruments (Matt. 26:30; Eph. 5:19; Col. 3:16-17; Heb. 2:12); **3) Preaching** God's Word (Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:42; 20:7); **4) Giving** as prospered, cheerfully (1 Cor. 16:1-2; 2 Cor. 9:7); **5) The Lord's Supper** on the first day of every week (Matt. 26:26-28; Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:20-34; 16:2; Heb. 10:23-31).

STEPS OF SALVATION: FROM SINNER TO SAVED

"...ye were the servants of sin..."
(Romans 6:17).



"...but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness" (Rom. 6:17b-18).

THE BAKER BULLETIN

The weekly bulletin of

The church of Christ in Baker, FL

March 1, 2020

Meeting Times

Sundays:

- 10AM Bible Class
- 11AM Worship
- 6PM Worship

Wednesdays:

- 7PM Bible Class

Other Information

5761 Hwy. 4
 P.O. Box 285
 Baker, FL 32531 USA
 850-669-9117

Website:

churchofChristatBaker.com

Radio Program:

104.7FM Sundays 8:30AM

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Can Women Be Pastors?

Jason Patrick Hilburn

It is becoming more and more common to hear of women preaching with authority over men and calling themselves "pastors." Is this authorized by God? It is understood that this can be a sensitive subject, especially because of modern culture. No disrespect is intended toward women at all, but the honest child of God will seek to know God's will on this topic. Those who truly love God will allow Him to transform our minds, instead of allowing our minds to be conformed to the ways of this world (Rom. 12:1, 2; cf. 10:17).

Before discussing whether women can be pastors, the word "pastor" should be defined. Most in the religious world misunderstand the word "pastor," as if it simply means a preacher or evangelist, but there is a great deal of difference between pastors and evangelists. Pastors and evangelists are listed separately in Ephesians 4:11, because those are two separate roles in the church. Evangelists mostly focus on evangelism and preaching (2 Tim. 4:2-5), but pastors actually have authority over an entire congregation. The word "pastors" literally means "shepherds," and they are also called elders, overseers, and bishops (Acts 20; 1 Tim. 3, 5; Titus 1; 1 Pet. 5; Heb. 13). They rule over the local congregation with whom they worship in matters of expediency, such as deciding when to assemble, how to use the money given, etc. (Acts 20:17, 28; 1 Tim. 5:17; cf. Heb. 13:7, 17). There was always a plurality of these in each congregation (Acts 14:23; 20:17; James 5:14, etc.), they must meet strict qualifications (1 Tim. 3; Titus 1; 1 Pet. 5), and there is no example of a woman being a pastor in the Bible, because God expressed very plainly that pastors/elders/bishops must be men! (1 Tim. 3:1-7).

In fact, God has consistently shown that men are to be the leaders in the Lord's church. Jesus was/is a man (1 Tim. 2:5); Jesus only chose men for His twelve apostles (Matt. 10:1-4; 1 Cor. 9:5); the inspired writers of the Bible were men; the "Jerusalem council" was comprised of men (Acts 15); elders/pastors overseeing a congregation must be men (1 Tim. 3:2); those serving in the office of deacons must be men (1 Tim. 3:11, 12); and those preaching/teaching with authority over men must be men (1 Tim. 2:11, 12).

If one simply reads 1 Timothy chapters 2 and 3, he will see very clearly what God desires regarding the roles of men and women in the church. Notice a few words from 1 Timothy 2:

*I will therefore that **men pray** every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting. In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works. **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.** For Adam was first formed, then Eve. And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived was in the transgression. Notwithstanding she shall be saved in childbearing, if they continue in faith and charity and holiness with sobriety (1 Tim. 2:8-15; cf. Titus 2:3-5; Acts 2:42; 1 Cor. 14:37).*

The word translated as "silence" in 1 Timothy 2:11, 12 regarding women means "quietness" and comes from a root that literally means "to keep one's seat" ([Strong's Greek Lexicon](#)). The woman should not "stand up" to speak with authority over men, as if she will be their instructor. Paul says the woman should not teach over the man, because: 1) God made man first; and 2) Eve was the one deceived in the garden (and was thus given a submissive role, Gen. 3:16). After Paul addresses the role of women, he continues into the next chapter explaining that bishops/pastors/elders and deacons must be men (1 Tim. 3:1-13). Paul also wrote similar words to the Corinthians:

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. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church (1 Cor. 14:34-35).

Please notice that in both 1 Timothy 2 and 1 Corinthians 14, Paul makes it clear that the submissive role of women is not simply something related to the culture of the first century A.D. In 1 Timothy 2:13-15, Paul goes all the way back to Adam and Eve, and in 1 Corinthians 14 he teaches that this is a longstanding principle from "the law," the Old Testament Scriptures. In other words, the submissive role of women has been decreed by God since the Garden of Eden for all cultures and generations! Passages

like these are so plain, one would have to have a lot of help to misunderstand them. Let the reader also remember that Paul was an apostle, an ambassador of Jesus Christ, and the Scriptures Paul wrote were the commandments of the Lord Himself (1 Cor. 14:37; cf. Jn. 17:8; 2 Tim. 3:16, 17).

Satan is the one who tempted Eve to go beyond what God authorized. Let women beware that Satan is still tempting them to go beyond their God-given roles today! May all women look to the example of Jesus, who stayed within His submissive role to God, even though He could have used His power to do otherwise (Matt. 4:1-10; 26:53; 1 Cor. 11:3; Heb. 4:15).

Satan has always twisted God's Word to accomplish his goals (Gen. 3; Matt. 4), and the devil still has people who serve him, appearing to be ministers of righteousness (2 Cor. 11:13-15). The only way to know if they are speaking Truth or error is by comparing their words to God's Word (Acts 17:11; 1 Thess. 5:21; 2 Tim. 2:15-18).

So, are there people today twisting Scriptures, attempting to justify women preaching to mixed assemblies of men and women? Of course, just as they will twist passages about salvation, marriage, worship, and many other subjects, attempting to justify whatever they want (2 Thess. 2:12; 2 Pet. 3:15-18). Many misuse Galatians 3:28, in which Paul said "there is neither male nor female," but that context is all about people being saved, whether men or women, Jews or Gentiles, bondservants or free (cf. 3:26-29). It has absolutely nothing to do with women's roles in the church. In the parallel passage of Colossians 3:11, Paul goes on to say that wives must submit to their husbands (Col. 3:18). Why would women need to submit, if the phrase "there is neither male nor female" means there are no more distinctions between the roles of men and women? Obviously, the submissive role required of women has not changed, the commandments of 1 Timothy and 1 Corinthians are not going anywhere, and Galatians 3:28 has been ripped out of context to try to justify something that is against God's will. By the way, when something is against God's will, there is another word for that—it's called "sin," and "the wages of sin is death" (1 Jn. 3:4; Rom. 6:23).

There is no doubt that there are women who honestly believe they are serving God in the role of a "pastor" or of a preacher. They may say things like, "God would not have called me to do this without a good reason," but God does not call people to violate His Word. Saul of Tarsus was doing all kinds of things contrary to God's will, even though he thought he was serving God faithfully in his zeal (Jn. 16:2; Acts 23:1; 26:9-11; Rom. 10:1-3). We can sometimes convince ourselves that we are doing what is right, but ultimately God's Word must be the criterion for determining right from wrong—not our own hearts or experiences. "There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death" (Prov. 14:12; cf. 12:15; 16:25; 28:26; 30:12; Jer. 10:23; 16:12; 17:9; James 1:22).

Much more could be said, and more objections could be answered, but those who truly want to obey God will not support such a blatant deviation from the authority of God's Word (Rom. 16:17; Eph. 5:11; 2 Jn. 10, 11). Women can do many wonderful things in the Lord's church, in the home, and elsewhere, but they will only be saved if they remain in their submissive role, as Paul clearly explained in 1 Timothy 2:9-15.