

CCH POSITION ON WOMEN IN MINISTRY

Intention: Creation

God created both men and women in His likeness with complementary roles. (Gen 5:1,2) They worked in harmony for His purpose. (Genesis 2:15-22)

Distortion: Fall

Sin entered the ideal created environment. (1 Corinthians 15:21,22) Though Adam and Eve's direct consequence was unique (Gen 3:16,19), they both participated in that rebellion against God's directive. They challenged God's intent so that the desire for both authority and role were corrupted.

Redemption: Jesus

At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit was poured out on both men and women, empowering all believers for God's mission. As Peter declared, "I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy..." (Acts 2:17)

The Spirit equips both women and men equally to live like Christ and serve His Church. While some traditions define "ministry" as a paid leadership role, Scripture calls all believers to reflect God's character and serve others through Spirit-given gifts. (1 Peter 4:10-11)

These gifts are not gender-specific. Our identity as God's workmanship (Eph. 2:10) and fellow citizens in His kingdom (Eph. 2:19-22) applies to every believer. The fulfillment of Jesus' Great Commission requires the mobilization of all—male and female—to actively use their gifts in His mission.

Our Hope: Fulfillment

Today, women at CCH serve with excellence and faithfulness across a wide range of ministries. Consistent with the example of Spirit-empowered service described in the New Testament (1 Corinthians 12: 12-27), women may engage in any function or ministry within the local church that aligns with God's mission and vision, as delegated by the lead pastor and shepherding team. CCH continues to affirm its understanding of Scripture that the role of elder and lead pastor — which includes the authority and responsibility of spiritual oversight — is reserved for qualified male members of the local body. (1 Timothy 3, Titus 1: 5-9)

It is essential to recognize that our worth and identity are not found in our roles or positions of authority, but in being the sons and daughters of God. As sons and daughters in submission to God, we all contribute to the life and mission of the church. (1 Corinthians 12: 25-27) All believers, men and women, are called to use their Spirit-given gifts to build up the Body of Christ, serve others, and advance the Kingdom. (Ephesians 4:1-16)