

“Man/Woman Hood” 1Timothy 2:8-15

Our sexuality is not incidental, or unimportant, or a curse, or a burden. Our manhood and womanhood were created by the perfect love and infinite wisdom of our brilliant Father. When you own your manhood and womanhood through the clarifying lens of God's Word you bring God much glory and experience much joy.

God's Design for Men and Women:

- Men and women are equal in honor, worth and value. (Gen1:27-28; 1Pet3:7; Gal3:28)
- God designed men and women with complementary roles in the home (Eph5:21-33) and church (1Tim2:11-15) that reveal truths about Jesus.
- Men are to be Servant Leaders who provide and protect women in ways appropriate to a man's differing relationships. Woman are to be Servant Lovers who support and nurture leadership from worthy men in ways appropriate to a woman's differing relationships.

The Greatness of Womanhood: vv9-12

- Modest – This is an undistracting attractiveness that is between idolizing and neglecting our bodies. True beauty is about love and not about looks. vv9-10; Isa53:2-3
- Quiet – It is to not speak or behave in a way that undermines the authority. vv1, 11, 12
- Teaching – Women should teach but not where it is exercising authority over men. v12; Titus 2:3; 2Tim1:5, 3:14; Acts 18:26; Matt28:19-20; Col 3:16; 1Cor 11
- Submissive – Women are not to assume the office of elder in the church. vv11-12; 1Tim3:1-7, 5:17; Luke 22:26; 2Cor10:8; 1Pet5:3

“Authority” refers to the divine calling of spiritual, gifted men to take primary responsibility as elders for Christ-like servant-leadership and teaching in the church. (1Tim3; Titus1; 1Pet5)

“Submission” refers to the divine calling of the rest of the church, both men and women, to honor and affirm the leadership of the elders and to be equipped by it for the hundreds and hundreds of various ministries available to men and women in the service of Christ.

Why It's Loving and Wise to Follow God's Design: Vv13-15

- It is consistent with God's order of creation. v13; Gen2
- When God's order is rejected, it brings disorder and disintegration. v14; Gen3
- We were designed to know, love, and obey God supremely and when we are faithful to that design, we flourish even when life is hard. v15

See desiringGod.org Manhood and Womanhood resources

Growing Notes

- 1) Why do you think our culture is terribly twisted on issues of gender and sexuality? Why do you think there is so much pressure on the church to compromise and conform to the culture (Rom12:2)?
- 2) Read 1 Timothy 2:8-15. What stands out to you from this text? How are men to pray (v8)? How are women to adorn themselves (vv9-10)? What are the character qualities of a godly woman (vv11-12)? Why is following God's design important (vv13-15)?
- 3) When it comes to God's design men and women are equal in importance but different in performance (roles). Explain. What does it mean that men are to be Servant Leaders and women are to be Servant Lovers?
- 4) Review the points under The Greatness of Womanhood (vv9-12). What is modesty and why is it important? In what ways can a woman teach in a church while still submitting to the leadership? What does it mean for a woman to be quiet and submissive?
- 5) Why are following God's design for Men and Women in the home, church and culture the most loving and wise way for personal and relational flourishing (vv13-15)? What is God speaking to you from this teaching? Pray.