



Women n Ministry

Pastor James Heyward

The YouPICK question for today is: Why does the Bible allow women to serve in ministry, including the office of lead pastor?

If Jesus has called her, the church does not get to call her *JUST*

JUST is a dangerous little word. It is small, but it can do a lot of damage. It is one word, but it can shrink a person.

- The Gospel removes the range system

“In Christ’s family there can be no division into Jew and non-Jew, slave and free, male and female. Among us you are all equal. That is, we are all in a common relationship with Jesus Christ.” Galatians 3:28 (MSG)

1. What does this verse say to you about relationships in the church?

2. What does this verse say to you about who can have a leadership role in the church?

- The Spirit was poured out on sons daughters Acts 2:14-18 (MSG)

“Fellow Jews, all of you who are visiting Jerusalem, listen carefully and get this story straight. These people aren’t drunk as some of you suspect. They haven’t had time to get drunk—it’s only nine o’clock in the morning. This is what the prophet Joel announced would happen: ‘In the Last Days,’ God says, ‘I will pour out my Spirit on every kind of people: Your sons will prophesy, also your daughters; Your young men will see visions, your old men dream dreams. When the time comes, I’ll pour out my Spirit on those who serve me, men and women both.’”

3. Who did God promise, through the prophet Joel, would receive the gift of the Holy Spirit?

4. Who received the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost?

- Scripture shows woman leading God's people
"Deborah was a prophet, the wife of Lappidoth. She was judge over Israel at that time. She held court under Deborah's Palm between Ramah and Bethel in the hills of Ephraim. The people of Israel went to her in matters of justice."
Judges 4:4-5 (MSG)

5. What do these verses say about Deborah's responsibilities to God's people?

6. What was the people's attitude toward Deborah's leadership? (to help answer this question also read Judges 4:6-10)

"I commend to you our sister Phoebe, a deacon of the church in Cenchreae. I ask you to receive her in the Lord in a way worthy of his people and to give her any help she may need from you, for she has been the benefactor of many people, including me." Romans 16:1-2

7. What was Paul's view of Phoebe's role in the church?

8. What was Paul's overall view of women performing leadership roles? (to help answer this question read Romans 16:3-16 and note that Paul commends other women for their roles)

- The hard passages
All passages that talk about women and leadership must be held up to the whole Bible and to the specific situation in which they were written.
According to Scripture:
 - God calls women
 - The Holy Spirit gifts women
 - The Bible names women
 - The early Church recognized the leadership of women

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