

Women's Groups YES, Men's Groups NO

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Someone always suffers whenever New Testament instructions are deviated from. All these problems listed in the article and more, (a whole lot worse), are a direct result of allowing culture to seduce the Church into ignoring the following instructions regarding conduct within the mixed gender Christian learning environment:

1 Corinthians 14:33-40

For God is not a God of disorder but of peace, as in **all the congregations of the saints, 34 women should remain silent in the churches. They are not allowed to speak, but must be in submission**, as the Law says. 35 If they want to inquire about something, they should ask their own husbands at home; for **it is disgraceful for a woman to speak in the church.** [*"Disgraceful," as in "Telling dirty jokes from the pulpit is disgraceful."* One is better off not attending such a meeting per 1 Cor 11:17. They are not really having church according to 1 Cor 14:33] 36 Did the word of God originate with you? Or are you the only people it has reached? 37 **If anybody thinks he is a prophet or spiritually gifted, let him acknowledge that what I am writing to you is the Lord's command. 38 If anyone ignores this command, he himself will be ignored.** 39 Therefore, my brothers, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. 40 But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.

The above is often explained away saying, "That was just for that culture back then, to cater to their male-chauvinist times which have long since past." To the contrary, the Corinthians' inclination was to allow women to speak in church, allowing women to teach the men and exercise authority over them, thus, the need for Christ's Apostle Paul to correct their error with this, "the Lord's command" (v. 37). Again, if the Corinthians' cultural inclination was already to make their women keep silence in the church and prohibit them from teaching men or exercising authority over them, then there would have been no need for the Apostle Paul to give this correction.

1 Timothy 2:8-15

8 I want men everywhere [in the churches, that is, not at all day at work, etc.] to lift up holy hands in prayer, without anger or disputing. 9 I also want women to dress modestly, with decency and propriety, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or expensive clothes, 10 but with good deeds, appropriate for women who profess to worship God. 11 **A woman should learn in quietness and full submission. 12 I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man; she must be silent.** 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not the one deceived; it was the woman who was deceived and became a sinner. 15 But women will be saved through childbearing — if they continue in faith, love and holiness with propriety.

NIV

The Bible is silent about "Men's Ministry," as if men need to retreat to a private huddle to regain some self-esteem and identity again about manhood. The verses above, in their contexts, show plainly enough that men alone have the right to participate in the Christian learning environment of mixed company. Every Christian gathering of mixed company is by default a men's meeting, with the women as silent auditors to any instruction. The women who ignore this rule become corrupted in attitude, neglecting development of "the quiet person of the heart" (1 Peter 3:1-6). To bring balance to this rule of silence, though, **special meetings for women are, however, mandated by the Bible** as follows:

Titus 2:3-5

3 Older women likewise are to be reverent in their behavior, not malicious gossips, nor enslaved to much wine, **teaching what is good, 4 that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, 5 to be sensible, pure, workers at home, kind, being subject to their own husbands, that the word of**

"The spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual. The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven. As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly. And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man." 1 Corinthians 15:46-49 NKJV

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God may not be dishonored.

NASB

Mature women teaching immature women about women's issues = Women's Group.

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