

1 Timothy 2:11-12

¹¹ A woman should learn in quietness and full submission. ¹² I do not permit a woman to teach or to assume authority over a man; she must be quiet.

“Why Doesn’t FPC have any Female Pastors?” ***Discussion Questions***

1. What has been your experience with or understanding of the role of women in church leadership? Has it changed over time? Why or why not?
 2. What is your reaction to FPC's (and ECO's) stated position of affirming and celebrating women in all forms of ministry leadership?
 3. Pastor Jim talked about the idea that God's intention at creation (with respect to the relationships between women and men) was marred in the fall and that the mission of Christ and the church is to work for the restoration of that original created order. Do you agree or disagree? Why?
 4. Do you think it is possible in our culture today -- even in the church -- to be clear about where we stand without being absolutist? Or to disagree in grace with those who are also trying to be faithful to their interpretation of Scripture and see things differently?
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If you would like to discuss the subject of women in ministry further with Pastor Jim Birchfield, feel free to email him at jbirchfield@fpchouston.org.

If you want to learn more on this topic, check out the resources below:

- Presentation by Jim Singleton:
 - <http://econationalgathering.org/2017ng/>
- Article: “Women in Ministry: A Biblical Basis for Equal Partnership”
 - <https://www.fuller.edu/women-in-ministry-download/>
 - Note: Your small group leaders have the actual article which they can forward to you.
- *Two Views on Women in Ministry (Counterpoints: Bible and Theology)*, by James R. Beck (Editor), Stanley N. Gundry (Series Editor), Linda L. Belleville (Contributor), Craig L. Blomberg (Contributor), Craig S. Keener (Contributor), Thomas R. Schreiner (Contributor)
- *Beyond Sex Roles: What the Bible Says about a Woman’s Place in Church and Family*, by Gilbert Bilezikian