

STUDY 3

1 Timothy 2:8 -15 – Men and Women ‘Submit’

Q. What issues between men and women in today’s society have become contentious?

Read verses 8-15 and as you read, circle the words you think are important. (Discuss your reasons afterwards).

1 Timothy 2:8-15 ⁸ I want men everywhere 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.

Q. What two groups of people are these verses directed to?

Q. This passage is a continuation of v’s 1-7? What is the main instruction given in 1-7 (v2)?

Q. How do men show a life of peace and quiet? (v8)

i) -----

Q. What images come to mind when you read this verse?

Paul wants God’s people to submit to the authorities of the time. The men are to put aside their violent and argumentative ways of the world, to strive to let God lead them. Instead of using their hands for fighting and their mouths for pushing for their rights, they must now live in submission, a condition of life demonstrated by raising hands in holy prayer and lips to place their requests before God. Their power is no longer in themselves but in the humility seen in Christ (2:5-6) as He allowed God fight for Him.

Q. Read verses 9-15. What does the writer imply when He uses the word ‘also’ (v9).

Q. How do women encourage peace and quietness in verses 9-10?

Q. How could external beauty disrupt the church?

Q. Do you think this would be a problem today? How?

Read verses 11-14 again

Q. What is the instruction/s given?

Q What reason/s does Paul give for this? _____

Q Clearly Adam committed a terrible sin in the garden of Eden by disobeying God's command. But what is the sin Paul brings into view?

Why is this sin so important to this passage in terms of husband's and wives keeping the peace in God's church?

What do you think is an appropriate way for husbands and wives in the church to deal with disagreements? (see 1Cor14:33-35)

Submission is a key theme in this section. Paul instructs Timothy about how God's people ought to behave in the household of God. Both men and women must put aside certain aspects of their manhood and womanhood which have the potential to create controversies, conflict and unrest in the church.

As God has ordained men to be the heads of their households, an attempt must be made by the wives to show respect to the order God has put into place, that husbands are the heads of wives. This is shown in the wives exercising self control in the church meeting and public arena by curbing differences of opinion with their husbands until they are able to discuss them in private.

The headship of men however must not be abused in an aggressive or abusive way, but must be a reflection of Christ's headship over the church (see Eph 5:25). This is seen reciprocally in the public meeting as men also submit to their authorities which are the secular powers of the time.

Prayer

Spend some time now praying for marriages in our church, that both husbands and wives would model peace and submission to PAC and to the city of Penrith.

Pray that both men and women would submit willfully and peacefully to whom God has place over them in His sovereign wisdom.

Pray for those who need to find the knowledge of truth found in Jesus.

Think of the two people you prayed for last week about inviting to church. Discuss how this is going with your group.

1. _____

2. _____

Prayer points: