

A photograph of a person's hands holding an open Bible outdoors. The person has long dark hair and is wearing a dark top. The Bible is open to a page with the word "COLOSSIANS" visible. The background is a blurred green field with trees. The text "Women in 5-Fold Ministry" is overlaid in white.

Women in 5-Fold Ministry

Where are women in the realms of Authority?

- Are they equal with a man, more than a man, less than a man?**

Genesis 1:26-28 (NKJV)

26 Then God said, Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth.

27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. **28** Then God blessed them, and God said to them, Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.

Galatians 3:26-28 (NKJV)

26 For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. 28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Categories of People:

- Jews and Greeks / Gentiles**
- Free and Slaves**
- Males and Females**

However, scripturally can they do certain things (in N.T.)? Can you be a Slave, Greek / Gentile, a Woman and:

- a. **Get saved? Lead someone else to the Lord?**
 - b. **Be Baptized with the Spirit? Help another be Baptized?**
 - c. **Be Healed? Or pray Healing on someone else?**
 - d. **Operate in the Gifts of the Spirit?**
 - e. **Serve others? Or be served by another?**
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- f. **Cast out demons? Or pick up demon problems?**
 - g. **Give Tithes, Offerings, Alms?**
 - h. **Receive Communion?**
 - i. **Perform Miracles, Signs, and Wonders?**
 - j. **Etc., Etc.**

k. Can Gentiles, and Slaves operate in the 5-Fold?

l. Can Females operate in the 5-Fold?

> There's the controversy.

> Explain the stance of those who say No....

**It seems many religious people would say:
Women aren't allowed in the 5-Fold Ministry.**

➤ Only women can't. (Doesn't that seem odd to you?)

- A Slave could. A Gentile could. But not a Woman.

1 Timothy 2:8-15 (NKJV)

8 I desire therefore that the men pray everywhere, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting; 9 in like manner also, that the women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with propriety and moderation, not with braided hair or gold or pearls or costly clothing, 10 but, which is proper for women professing godliness, with good works.

11 Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. 12 And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression. 15 Nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.

1 Timothy 2:9-10 (KJV)

9 In like manner also, that women adorn themselves in modest apparel, with shamefacedness and sobriety; not with broided hair, or gold, or pearls, or costly array; 10 But (which becometh women professing godliness) with good works.

“Modest apparel”

(#2887) - “from 2889 (in its primary sense); orderly, i.e. decorous:--of good behaviour, modest.”

“Shamefacedness”

(#127) - “perhaps from 1 (as a negative particle) and 1492 (through the idea of downcast eyes); bashfulness, i.e. (towards men), modesty or (towards God) awe:--reverence, shamefacedness.”

“Sobriety”

(#4997) - “from 4998; soundness of mind, i.e. (literally) sanity or (figuratively) self-control:-soberness, sobriety”

“Broided Hair” - Literally means ‘Braided Hair’.

“Costly”

(#4185) - “from 4183 and 5056; extremely expensive:--costly, very precious, of great price.”

Ezekiel 16:9-14 (NKJV)

9 Then I washed you in water; yes, I thoroughly washed off your blood, and I anointed you with oil. 10 I clothed you in embroidered cloth and gave you sandals of badger skin; I clothed you with fine linen and covered you with silk. 11 I adorned you with ornaments, put bracelets on your wrists, and a chain on your neck. 12 And I put a jewel in your nose, earrings in your ears, and a beautiful crown on your head.

13 Thus you were adorned with gold and silver, and your clothing was of fine linen, silk, and embroidered cloth. You ate pastry of fine flour, honey, and oil. You were exceedingly beautiful, and succeeded to royalty. 14 Your fame went out among the nations because of your beauty, for it was perfect through My splendor which I had bestowed on you, says the Lord GOD.

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11 Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. 12 And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression. 15 Nevertheless she will be saved in childbearing if they continue in faith, love, and holiness, with self-control.

“Man” in v. 12 > Greek Word “Aner” (#435 - Strong’s)

It is the only word translated “Husband” in the New Testament.

With 2 Exceptions:

Romans 7:2 (#5220) - describing a wife who is under the legal authority of a husband

Titus 2:4 (#5362) - talking of a wife's affection for her husband.

“Man” in v. 12 > Greek Word “Aner” (#435 - Strong’s)

It is the only word translated “Husband” in the New Testament.

We know, by 2 ways, it's talking about married people:

- Context**
- Definition of the word used for 'man' means 'husband'.**

This scripture is telling us that a wife cannot have authority over her husband.

The reasons: Adam was formed first.

: Eve was deceived at the fall.

It's not saying a woman can never teach a man or have authority over a 'man', it's about the 'husband'.

-So, she could be a 5-Fold minister, (even a Pastor) as long as she's not over her husband.

I do see scripture saying that the husband is supposed to be the head of the household. (1 Corinthians 11; Ephesians 5)

Should a wife usurp his authority and take over?

- No.

But to say she can never speak into anything, or teach him anything - seems to be taking it too far.

Another point:

- a. v. 11 - “Let a woman learn in silence with all submission.”**
- b. “Woman” - in the Greek is “Gune” (#1135). The word is used in this entire section.**

11 Let a woman learn in silence with all submission. 12 And I do not permit a woman to teach or to have authority over a man, but to be in silence. 13 For Adam was formed first, then Eve. 14 And Adam was not deceived, but the woman being deceived, fell into transgression.

1 Corinthians 14:34-40 (NKJV)

34 Let your women keep silent in the churches, for they are not permitted to speak; but they are to be submissive, as the law also says. **35 And if they want to learn something, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is shameful for women to speak in church.** **36 Or did the word of God come originally from you? Or was it you only that it reached?**

“Women” - ‘Gune’ (#1135)

“Keep Silent” - (1 Timothy 2:11) > “Learn in Silence”

“Be Submissive” - (also in 1 Timothy 2:11)

“It is Shameful for women to speak in church”

Religion says: how can a woman be a 5-folder, if they are to be silent in the church?

37 If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are the commandments of the Lord. 38 But if anyone is ignorant, let him be ignorant. 39 Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues. 40 Let all things be done decently and in order.

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“Women” - ‘Gune’ (#1135) in the Greek.

**1. ‘Gune’ - “probably from the base of 1096;
a woman; specially, a wife:--wife,
woman.”**

**2. However: Gune is the only word
translated ‘Wife’ in the entire
N.T.**

**Except - 1 Peter 3:7 where it’s (#1134 -
‘Guneikeios’) which is taken from
#1135, and it means a “feminine
wife”. (But it still means wife)**

**a. Other Greek words are translated
woman, but only ‘Gune’ is translated
‘wife’.**

3. Gune referring to single and married women.

92 times - Woman

129 times - Wife

4. So which one is it here??

**a. Looking at the context - it's a wife.
(Re-read)**

1 Corinthians 14:34-40 (NKJV)

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Do you know what it does say: Read v. 35.

“If they want to learn something - ask the question at home.”

(NIV - “Inquire about something”)

When the definitions to the words don't tell us.

When the context doesn't tell us.

We need to look at the culture.

Other perspectives for men being the leaders and discluding women: (Other things you will hear or read that says.....)

O.T. - Almost 100% of the Leadership was men.

- 1. Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, the 12 sons, the Judges, the Prophets, the Kings, etc.**

In the N.T. - Almost 100% of the stated Leadership was men.

- 1. Jesus chose 12 men.**
- 2. Acts 6: choose 7 men.**
- 3. Paul's directions for Elders / Deacons (Timothy & Titus) were given to men.**

My perspective:

Because of the discredited and belittled position of the woman since the fall of Adam and Eve, the demeaning of women had gotten into the culture, and they would not be accepted in any leadership capacity.

State of women in society in Jesus' day:

“In the time of Jesus’s ministry, women were usually regarded as subordinate and inferior in virtually every area of life. They were to remain at home, to be good wives and mothers, and to take no part in public discourse or education. Josephus, a Jewish historian, said:

“The woman, says the Law, is in all things inferior to the man. Let her accordingly be submissive.” It was also said: “Better is the wickedness of a man than a woman who does good” (Sirach).”

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The Role of Women at the Time of Jesus.

“In her own domain, a woman’s religious and social status was high, but in the eyes of the Law, she was inferior, being coupled with minors and slaves in the rabbinical writings of the Mishna.

Her ineligibility to perform in public religious life is reflected in the ancient synagogue prayer: ‘Blessed Art thou, oh Lord God, king of the universe, who has not made me a woman.’ ”

bible-history.com

Why Did Almost All Societies Believe that Women Were Inferior to Men?

All modern societies evolved out of agrarian societies. Before the Industrial Revolution, the male endurance value and physical strength translated directly to political power. Men fought in wars, hunted beasts, erected buildings, and plowed fields PRECISELY because they possessed the physical stamina to do so at a far greater degree than females.

Back before the Industrial Revolution, human fertility was the highest premium factor in existence. People lived to have babies, and babies were the most important thing men and women brought into the world.

This was for a very good reason, reasons that no longer exist (and a reality we now live in that we take for granted). More than half of all human beings died before their second birthday. Life was largely physically challenging, oftentimes painful, and disease was relatively rampant.

Life wasn't quite as short as most people make it out to be (average life expectancy was around 38 years because of child mortality, but only another 10 years is added once we factor in those who make it to their teens, meaning that life expectancy hovered around 48—still awfully short).

So, to put it plainly, women had a place in society that wasn't just dictated by male prejudice (while it certainly existed); it was dictated by the needs of society. Gestating was (and is) a very time-consuming affair. Rearing children could not be done in day-care centers or public facilities. There were no public schools, no social safety nets, no labor laws:

All that existed was family and church/temple/mosque (and religious organizations weren't in the business of providing much in the way of social safety nets). Women were needed at home because the lack of sophistication in society basically relegated most men and women into the roles that they had: men = physical power / social manager and women = home power / child-bearer.

slate.com

What was Jesus' perspective of women.

- 1) He affirmed the worth and value of women along with men.
(He ministered to men and women.)**
- 2) Jesus rejected the perspective that women were held responsible for all sexual sin. (Matthew 5:28; John 8:1-11)**

3) He healed women and commended them for their faith. (Matthew 12:31)

4) Jesus permitted a sinful woman to anoint and kiss him. (Luke 7:36-50)

5) He said prostitutes would enter the Kingdom before the religious leaders. (Matthew 21:31)

6) He offered salvation to them directly. (John 4:4-42; 8:1-11)

**7) Jesus taught women and included them in his group of disciples.
(Luke 10:38-42)**

8) He shared his reason for being on earth with a woman. (John 4:4-42)

9) He allowed a woman to do the work of an evangelist. (John 4:4-42)

10) Many women traveled with Jesus as he ministered. (Luke 8:1-3)

11) He protected women. (John 8:1-11)

12) The first people he revealed himself to after the Resurrection was a woman. (Luke 23:49-56; 24:1)

13) Women were included in his commitment to discipleship and obedience. (Luke 8:21; 11:28)

14) There were 17 men and 6 women named in the bible as being committed disciples to Jesus:

- a. Men: The 12 disciples, Joseph Justus, Matthias, Lazarus, Nicodemus, and Joseph of Arimathea.**
- b. Women: Mary (Jesus' mother), Mary Magdalene, the 'other' Mary, mary of Bethany, Joanna, Susanna, Salome.**

Women are included to minister in the Supernatural.

- 1) Outpouring of the Spirit. (Acts 1-2)**
 - 2) Receiving of the Holy Spirit.
(Acts 2:17-18)**
 - 3) Women can Prophecy. (Acts 2:17-18;
21:8-9; 1 Cor. 11:5)**
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- 4) Women included in the Gifts of the Spirit. (1 Cor. 12:7)**
 - 5) Women are included in the 5-Fold Gifts as they are part of the body. (1 Corinthians 12)**
 - 6) Women are included in the Motivational Gifts as they are part of the body. (Romans 12:3-8)**

Women in the Early Church.

1) Women met with Paul at the prayer meeting that started the church in Philippi. (Acts 16:13-15)

2) Lydia became a crucial part of the establishment of the Philippian Church. (Acts 16:13-15, 40)

**3) Priscilla and Aquila taught Apollos.
(Acts 18:2, 18, 26)**

**4) 12 women who worked with Paul were
named:**

**- Chloe - House Church Leader (1
Corinthians 1:11)**

**- Nympha - House Church Leader
(Colossians 4:15)**

- Apphia - House Church Leader
(Philemon 2)

- Mary, Tryphena, Tryphosa, Persis
(Romans 16:6, 12)

 - > “Work Very Hard” helping Paul in ministry

- Priscilla (Romans 16:3-4)

 - > Aquila’s wife: Teachers / Mentors
(Apollos named)

- Euodia, Syntyche (Philippians 4:2-3)

 - > “Fellow Workers”; “Contended at Paul’s side”

- **Phobe - A Deaconess in the church of Cenchrea (Romans 16:1-2)**
- **Andronicus & Junia - Outstanding Apostles (Rom. 16:7)**
 - > **“Outstanding among the Apostles”**

5) One of the descriptions of the church is the ‘Bride’ of Christ.

a. The 5-Fold gifts in Ephesians 4 are given to whom?

> The church.

> The church is the Bride.

Scripturally a Bride is a woman.

b. By Picture / Type:

The 5-Fold were given to a woman / the Bride.

6) 1 Timothy 5:2; Titus 2:3 - (#4247 - “Presbutis”)

a. ‘Presbutis’ is the feminine of ‘Presbyter’.

b. ISBE and Strong’s agree: (#4245, #4246, #4247)

> In both men and women it means:

“Old, Elder, Senior” in age and position.

- 7) Church History (Not the Bible) credits Phoebe or Priscilla with possibly writing the book of Hebrews.**
 - a. Most lean towards Priscilla.**
 - b. Google: Did Phoebe or Priscilla write the book of Hebrews.**

Equally Called - Women in Ministry

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Conclusion:

- 1) Women have as much authority / right to minister in every way - as a man.**
- 2) Women should not usurp authority over their husband – in any area of life.**