

What is meant by women ought to be silent in the church?

The role of women in the church, especially in terms of leadership, is a very controversial topic, even amongst Christians. Since the Bible is God's Word, it is the ultimate authority in all matters so we ought to obey what God writes.

1. Where does this message come from?
1 Corinthians **14:32-36**

When Paul is discussing proper behavior in the church (1 Corinthians 14), Paul covers the role of speaking in tongues and speaking prophecy, and mentions a role associated with women in the church.

2. Does this have something to do with how Paul views the value of women?
1 Timothy **2:9-12** Galatians **3:27-29**
Romans **2:10-13** Numbers **30:2-8**

When standing before Christ, Paul understands that there is no difference in value between a man and a woman but there is a difference of responsibilities. Even from the beginning, God has placed men in the position of responsible authority and for a woman to take that position of responsible authority is to usurp the role that God has established for men.

3. If the woman is more spiritually minded than the man or men around her, why not lead?
1 Timothy **2:12-14** 1 Peter **3:1-5**
Ephesians **5:22-24** Colossians **3:18**
Genesis **2:16-22**

Women ought not to lead, even if they are spiritually minded, because it is not the role that God gave for them. Instead they have been commanded by God to be a servant and to be faithfully obedient to God and God's commands.

4. What should women consider to be their responsibilities?
Titus **2:3-5** Proverbs **31:11-13**
1 Timothy **5:11-14** 1 Corinthians **7:10**

The woman is called by God to teach other women (aged is not as much of an issue of physical age but of spiritual maturity and experience). They are also called to conduct their lives in such a way that their husband is not being placed under undue financial pressure. The women are given basic charge over the house and children but not to the degree of usurping power over her husband. The word of God can still be taught to the children without dishonoring and without usurping the authority of the husband.