

Cultivate Reflection Guide

She Her | How Jesus Empowered Women
Pastor Matt Brown | April 29-30, 2023

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NEW series: The Bible teaches that God created mankind in His image; male and female He created them. While gender is sacred and unchanging, the historical roles of men and women in the church have varied over time. Together, we'll discover what the Bible teaches about the role of women in the church.

Our Reflection Guide is a tool to help you grow spiritually wise, relationally kind and emotionally healthy. Use it to reflect and respond to the weekend message as you cultivate personal spiritual growth, lead your community group discussion or start a conversation with a trusted friend as you grow together. Pair it with your bible, a journal or any resource that helps you learn. *It's not about getting through the content, but getting the content through you!*

Inspired & Useful

Read: [2 Timothy 3:16-17 NLT](#)

Dig Deeper Opportunity: [Romans 10:17 ESV](#), [2 Timothy 2:15 NLT](#), [Hebrews 4:12-13 NLT](#)

Reflect: The Bible teaches that all scripture is inspired by God and useful to instruct, encourage and correct us. It's our responsibility to handle it rightfully and responsibly. As we've explored scripture and stories of women in the bible, what has most instructed, encouraged or corrected you?

Called & Equipped

Read: [Matthew 28:8-9 NLT](#), [Matthew 23:3 NLT](#)

Reflect: Jesus called on the women at the tomb to "legō" [*Hebrew: to teach, to advise, to exhort*] the disciples that He was risen. As He sent them, He equipped them with a reminder to not be afraid. Where in your life could fear, doubt or uncertainty be keeping you from stepping out of your comfort zone and going where Jesus is leading?

Respond: Your fears may not disappear, and your obstacles may remain unmoved, but what is a first step you could take to do what Jesus is asking anyway? This could be a practical, action step or a spiritual, wisdom seeking step.

Attitude, Humility & Service

Read: [1 Corinthians 11:5, 11-12 NIV](#), [Matthew 20:24-28 NLT](#), [Matthew 11:28 NLT](#)

Reflect: The world asserts that leadership is about power, position and authority, but Jesus models leadership with a humble, servant's heart. With that heart, He unleashed women to minister in His church alongside, not over men, using their God-given gifts with his authority. How does this call to serve "alongside" vs. "over" others inspire you to follow Jesus' example in the places He's called you to lead?

Respond: Women are not called to be men, and while our strengths are great, the reality is that anxiety arises when we carry burdens we are not intended to bear. How have you experienced this to be true in your life? While you may not have the luxury of laying down some burdens, are there any that you could hand over to Jesus today?

Cultivate Prayer: Jesus, thank you for creating me to reflect your loyalty, faithfulness and servant's heart. I'm grateful for the unique gifts and strengths you've given me, and I want to use those to serve alongside, not over, others. Help me to remember that your strength is made perfect in me when I humbly and authentically admit my weaknesses and carry only what you've called me to. Help me to put my trust in you daily as I pursue my calling in your kingdom and align my heart with yours. Amen.