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FULLNESS

Magazine Online

The Mother Heart of Father God

By Beverly Robinson

Mercy in the Middle

By Jodi Rodgers

Listen to Her Voice

By Anderick Biddle

Warrior Woman: Unstoppable Obedience

By Nena Gates

Should Women be in Ministry?

By Terry Houston

Women in the Kingdom: Whose Pattern are we Building On?

By Ami Loper

Women in Ministry



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Women in the Kingdom: Whose Pattern are We Building On?

by Ami Loper

A look at history will show us that the most shameful actions contrary to the heart of God were done by people either through ignorance, deception or willful abuse of the Word of God.

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In this issue we are focusing on Women in Ministry! Just the phrase itself is enough to cause heartburn to a lot of religious people.

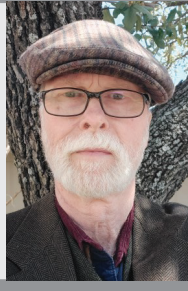
Ras and
Beverly Robinson

FOUNDERS of
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Editor's Letter

Women in Ministry



Even as a Baptist (before and after I became a pastor), I never completely understood why women were limited in leadership positions in the church. They could teach children or other women as in “women’s ministry”. The religious cultural point seemed to be based on the idea of how the relationship and authority of a woman pastor is to operate with a “first gentleman” who is the “head of the home” but not the co-pastor. Does the wife’s authority gel with the authority of the husband in the home?

This was not a hypothetical for me in the 1980s when I visited First Assembly of God in Corpus Christi. I heard a woman pastor preach an excellent sermon in the power of the Holy Spirit. When my Baptist church became non-denominational, our elders were ordained as couples. The wives moved in Holy Spirit revelation and power, ministering in the church sometimes in greater measure than their husbands, who encouraged and supported them in public ministry.

Let’s face it, women are designed to be relational, which is what the church should be about, and it reflects the heart of God. Perhaps, this is why women respond so readily to the Holy Spirit, and frankly, function well as pastors. They, also, add beauty to the home and church. It must register guys, that they excel more at “being” than “doing” (tasks, building something etc.). A study was done in the 1990s showing that men found their identity in what they did or their position at work, while women described themselves in terms of relationship. This study is dated, and today, some women, who want to excel in the workplace, think it is necessary to accommodate themselves to win in a “man’s world”, conforming at times to a task-oriented mindset, which denies a fundamental strength that women possess. Today, women populate and excel in higher education more than men.

In Genesis, it was God’s plan that men (husbands) and women (wives), living in God’s glory, should experience unity with God and each other. Sin came in the form of disunity through human free-will. The result was a disruption of unity, which in a committee of two required hierarchy. God knew this in advance that is why male and female compliment each other, demonstrating their need for each other.

This issue is to affirm women in ministry, and there must be support and appreciation of husbands and the men in the church for this to take place completely. Fullness in Christ Church is a good example, worthy to emulate, of having women elders and deacons, unmarried and widowed. Many of our prophets are women. We as a church do not need to be convinced of the value of our women. Sadly, a good portion of the church through cultural misappropriation of the scripture, have a hard time with “In Christ there is neither male nor female” (a statement of equality in the Body of Christ, acknowledging and celebrating the distinction of

both genders of which there is only two).

Without further ado, our feature writer is **Ami Loper** who is head of Ami Loper ministries (www.amiloper.com) who, through her preaching and writing, delivers hope and practical tools to inspire a deeper

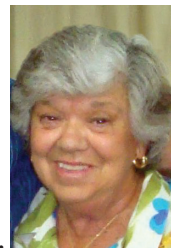


relationship with the Lord and with His Word. Ami is a biblical apologist and in her article, “Women in the Kingdom: Whose Pattern are We Building On?”, argues for a correct biblical interpretation free from Hellenization to open the place and space

for women in ministry. Loper, using the motif of a garden, argues that Hellenization affected both Jewish and Christian societies with its effect still apparent today in the misinterpretation of scripture through a cultural, non-biblical lens. She states, “*As a result of this failure [to use the bible and listen to the Holy Spirit], their interpretations and their implementations of the New Testament were quickly skewed. Instead of letting their filter be the God of the Bible, they allowed culture to be their primary filter.*”

The reprint of **Bev Robinson’s** article, “The Mother Heart of Father God” from her column, “A Woman’s Perspective” featured in the September/October 1988

issue of Fullness Magazine foreshadows what would be a revolution of the acceptance of women preachers in our day (although some may still struggle with the place of women in ministry). She states, “One day I ran across a scripture that was especially intriguing to me: ‘As one whom His mother comforts, so I will comfort you’ (Isaiah 66:3).” God had compared Himself to a mother in giving comfort. This early seminal verse brought forth a fruitfulness that other women would seize upon to gain validation for their lives and ministry. Today, her daughter Robin Robinson Bohlin is the publisher of this magazine and co-pastor of Fullness in Christ Church. She picked up this publisher mantle from her mother and is carrying on her dream to reestablish Fullness magazine and the message for a new generation.

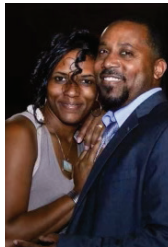


Jodi Rodgers, daughter of our Managing Editor Budd Rodgers, submits an article about her personal journey in believing God for healing. She encourages her readers to

meet the Man (Jesus) who heals, not just to search for the formula for healing. She states, “Sometimes, we look at life and demand answers. But unfortunately, that common demand for answers can be a blindness far greater than the physical blindness from which this man had been healed.” Jodi is in full-time ministry as a missionary to the students of the East Phoenix area and is the Student Ministries Director at her local church, New Season Christian Fellowship.



Anderick Biddle, who with his wife Shirron, are the best-selling authors of *Marriage Works: 7 Steps to Renovate Your Marriage*. They are also the founders of Marriage Renovators. Anderick reminds men in his article “Listen to Her Voice” that women have a unique connection to the prophetic. Drawing upon the Hebrew, including its pictorial elements of the Hebrew letters, Biddle, makes the case for women’s inclusion in the decisions of men because they are gifted with revelation and discernment. He states, “So then, it is no coincidence that the Hebrew word for woman, “Ishah”, is derived from the word ish which refers to man, with one notable difference. The word ishah concludes with the Hebrew letter “hey” which is a letter whose image represents divine revelation and insight.” He goes on to maintain “One more detail that speaks volumes to the discussion of the role of women in ministry is the fact that both women and the Holy Spirit are similarly described as “helpers.” In the Hebrew this word is “ezer”, and it is a picture of being able to separate or discern between things.



My friend **Nena Gates** gives her personal testimony of steadfast faith in the spiritual battleground involving ministering to addicts, the poor and the homeless, while working full-time, helping her husband plant churches, run for congress, and amazingly ministering in the prophetic. She is the glue of her home; the “momma bear” protecting her children (natural and spiritual), while standing in faith through cancer (she was miraculously healed previously). She is a woman of faith, blunt (speaking the truth in love) while holding it all together, giving counsel, and ministering courageously in their church plant 412LA in a light-speed effort to make Hollywood to become Holywood. Her astounding testimony of God redeeming misfortune and trials has honed her for battle and has opened the door for her to address the movers and shakers of California Republican politics from a Christian perspective.



Terry Houston, in his article, “Should Women be in Ministry” has a wonderful perspective of the value of both men and women in ministry. His insight into the value of order in the ministry of the Church is obviously

a revelation from the Holy Spirit. Read this with the understanding that God intends for men and women both to minister and that men and women both are to be content and calm as we learn from Holy Spirit. Terry has been in ministry for 24 years and now is called to prepare the body of Christ for His return through Terry Houston Ministries.



In **Budd Rodger’s** column *The Shepherd’s Voice*, “Deborahs Arise!” he exhorts the church to get over petty controversies and realize that the world has no problem with women in leadership, and “. . . the basic meaning of the word for ‘ministry’ is to serve, which both genders should be doing.” He goes on to state, “When we read the Bible, we have all kinds of examples of women in ministry and women in leadership roles so we should get on with we really should be focusing on one thing and that is “growing up in Christ.”



In **Jennifer Peikert’s** column “Declaring the Truth,” she challenges the church to let go of the old way of thinking that hinders us from being open to the new and fresh way that God is working in our lives and the life of the Church. She exhorts, “I felt led to write about mindsets. I believe God is wanting to shake our mindsets to prepare us for what He is doing and will be doing. He wants to shake us loose from anything that would stop us from walking in the new.”



In conclusion, Men, women need to be celebrated for who they are and not evaluated only for what they can do. If we evaluate women based on the standard of our performance, we will force them to be like us and not minister out of who God created them to be. Perhaps, now is the time for us as men to evaluate ourselves on how relational we are.

We are excited about the coming Sons and Daughters of Fullness conference June 23-25. You are invited to attend and receive anointed teaching and ministry. For more information, check out the ad in this magazine or go to www.fullnessnetwork.net.

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Blessings,

Tom

Women in the Kingdom: Whose Pattern are We Building on?



by Ami Loper

“A look at history will show us that the most shameful actions contrary to the heart of God were done by people either through ignorance, deception or willful abuse of the Word of God.”

Of Gardens and Curses

It began in a Garden. A place of perfection, of peace, the place where God's Kingdom resided. It changed with an eruption of pride, selfish ambition, envy and rebellion that burst upon the perfection and, in a moment, carved chasms never meant to exist, chasms that would rip at the core of the identity and the purpose with which our loving Creator had endowed each human.

Curses came where blessings had flowed. Distance from our Source of life cursed us with temptations to follow our own will. Curses came on land that had been fashioned to nourish. Curses came between humans, erecting a hierarchy where seamless partnership had been. Curses brought enmity between Satan and all Eve's offspring but a particularly acute enmity between Satan and the woman.

Satan's lies were laid bare: the fruit did bring the promised death after all, not the forked-tongued assurances of equality with God. Instead of equality with her Maker, Eve was introduced to a new order of things.

She fell into a dichotomy with her daughters in which she was equal to her co-regent before God but considered less than and perhaps a little more than a life-accessory to her formerly equal partner. Though her Maker had fashioned her when Adam most felt the need for an equivalent to himself, actually pulling her out of his own body, Adam's sons would begin to consider her with condescension. Some would treat her, not as the crown of creation, but as a burden to be endured, the outlet for their cravings, their property.

From the beauty of perfection, the outcasts were sent, and our own wills became elevated where we had previously only desired God's way. The two once faithful partners, one of the other, would turn against instead of toward each other as their beliefs twisted under the weight of the curses. They would each become perversions of their intended selves, competing, grasping for power, oppressing, and misusing.

But then, millennia later, there was another Garden, a place where the God-Man surrendered His will to the Garden Maker. His surrender purchased back our

original Garden. He had spent three and a half years demonstrating what the reign in this re-discovered Garden would look like. It would look like sickness bowing its knee to the rule of God. It would look like the very elements of the world giving way to the command of one under the authority of the Kingdom of Heaven. It would look like everyone being fed—with leftovers besides. It would look like death being swallowed up in victory, and it would look like the destruction of human-made constructs that caused pride and oppression and division.

Kingdom Come

When Jesus came in the flesh, He pronounced that the Kingdom of God was at hand (Mark 1:15). As He showed us what this Kingdom would look like, what it would actually be like for us to come under the authority of God, He openly contradicted many of our human-centric beliefs and customs. He had no tolerance for customs humans had attached to God's gift of the Sabbath. He rebuked leaders for pridefully elevating themselves above and against others. He had no patience for the greed and avarice that plagued even the nation that was to represent Him. He also bucked the current cultural climate in the area of the treatment of women.

In the era of the birth of the Church the influential Rabbi Eliezer said, in agreement with the culture of his time, that to teach a daughter the Torah was to teach her promiscuity. In most of the world, women were excluded from learning the most important truths of life.

In this atmosphere, Jesus came, teaching women and revealing His identity to a woman (when teaching women was generally banned). Jesus came, conversing with women (when a man could accuse his wife of infidelity and divorce her for speaking with a man). Jesus came, holding to the original purpose for marriage and holding men accountable for divorcing them (when Hillel [110 BC—AD 10] taught a man could divorce his wife for spoiling his food).

Jesus came, including women among His friends, His supporters, His disciples. Although not one of the twelve, Mary called Jesus, "*Rabboni*" (John 20:16). This isn't a softened or affectionate version of the word, "*rabbi*". It is a strengthened form of the word and means, "*my Rabbi*". (And lest we get hung up on the fact that there are no women among the twelve, neither were there any Gentiles, any people of color, any white men.)

When a woman spoke up in her culturally drenched words to say to Jesus, "*Blessed is the womb that bore you, and the breasts at which you nursed!*" (for that was the limited option for blessing open to women at the time), Jesus corrected her, saying, "*Blessed rather are those who hear the word of God and keep it!*" (Luke 11:27-28). His correction spoke volumes to those on the fringes. They too were being called to the highest calling of humankind: an intimate knowledge of their God.

Jesus came, allowing a woman to evangelize her whole village (John 4) and commanding women to be the first to preach His Resurrection (Matthew 28:10). He was, by

these very actions, demonstrating the Kingdom. He was revealing the Garden to them once again, giving them a glimpse of the Eden they could bring to earth.

The Garden was returned to us. It was returned with the tension of the "*now and the not yet*" surrounding it. When Jesus declared, "*It is finished*" on the cross, He was saying all was accomplished. At the same time, He would, prior to the ascension make it plain that what He had begun, we would need to walk out. Where healing, abundance, and delegated authority over this world was purchased on the cross, we would still need to pray for and have faith for these things that won't always be realized on this side of heaven (Hebrews 2:7-8).

Culture, Power or Kingdom

Free will. It is a blessing. It makes us creatures capable of love and sacrifice and action contrary to the baser parts of our nature. Yet, it has a flip side, one which reveals our true heart when we are given options. When the Bible is anywhere less than crystal clear, our free will provides an opportunity to display how much of God's heart we've absorbed through our relationship with Him or how much we will follow our flesh. Will we demonstrate, as we implement the Word of God, that we know His heart and His desire to liberate the oppressed? Or will we allow our selfishness, pride and hunger for power to twist and distort our reflection of Him?

When it comes to the treatment of others, we see Paul's letters continually challenging the norms of culture. In Galatians 3:28, he challenged them saying, "*There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.*"

This was so revolutionary at the time that the first century Church's liberty and equality was a baffling mystery to the surrounding cultures. Unfortunately, progress was not linear, it did not persistently improve. Although the qualms about Gentile men were overcome permanently in the first century Church, hangups about race, economic status, and gender have caused a vacillation between freedom and oppression ever since.

A look at history will show us that the most shameful actions contrary to the heart of God were done by people either through ignorance, deception or willful abuse of the Word of God.

Free will is often steered more toward what the culture believes than what the Word of God directs, and in the first century, the culture was ubiquitously Greek. We see it present and infiltrating Judaism in Jesus' day. Unfortunately, the Jewish community of the time was not without the taint of culture. Not all of Jewish culture in the first century was biblical, far from it. Among the Greek influences on the Jewish culture was their influence on the treatment of women.

Hellenization, the very successful effort to bring the entire Greco-Roman world under Greek thinking, had been well-established for a few hundred years before Jesus arrived incarnate.

At the time of Jesus, the great Herodian Temple was being built—a temple that had a court designated for women. It was not a court exclusive to women, but it was a court that women could not enter beyond. That was far from biblical. There was no separate court for women in Solomon’s temple or the Tabernacle that God designed. Women were actively involved in worship before Hellenization. This was part of the typical cultural filter against women that Jesus warned against as He spoke to the Jewish people, discussing questions about divorce, lust and infidelity.

After Jesus’ ascension, we see more and more Gentiles entering the church, and although we are grateful and in awe that God, the Father of all, made provision that the Gentiles also could repent and be brought to life (Acts 11:18). It was even more challenging for Gentiles to jettison Greek core beliefs than it had been for the Jews to go back to their biblical foundation.

Those who interpreted the New Testament and formed Church doctrine from their interpretations needed to reach back, past the Hellenism of society at large, past the taint of first century Judaism which applied its own culture to the Word of God, to a God who loved more and better than they could fathom. They had to reach out to a God who was foreign to their worldview and try to see through His eyes, and in so many ways, they did not do this. They failed to grasp that God’s ways could be so much higher than their own.

As a result of this failure, their interpretations and their implementations of the New Testament were quickly skewed. Instead of letting their filter be the God of the Bible, they allowed culture to be their primary filter. They translated the New Testament from their time backward; they had the wrong starting point. Instead of reading about women through the viewpoint of a God who declared that men and women needed each other (Genesis 2:18; 1 Corinthians 11:11), they interpreted through a Greek philosophy lens that believed women were created by the gods as a retaliation and a curse on mankind. Women were the cause of all hardship, originating with the first woman, Pandora, who opened her infamous box and unleashed all the evil of the world. Women were the cause of all suffering and all disease.

The Greek influence is the reason Church leaders like Tertullian (AD 160-230) could say things like, *“woman... do you not know that you are (each) an Eve? The sentence of God on this sex of yours lives in this age: the guilt must of necessity live too. You are the devil’s gateway: you are the unsealer of that (forbidden) tree: you are the first deserter of the divine law: you are she who persuaded him whom the devil was not valiant enough to attack. You destroyed so easily God’s image in man. On account of your desert—that is, death—even the Son of God had to die.”*

The Greek influence, and the resulting abuse of the Scripture through *“backward translating”* is the reason so many are still stifling women in a way that in no way reflects the Spirit of Christ Jesus. We’ve become guilty of

syncretism, combining doses of Greek philosophy with Christianity to produce a hybrid belief that nods at biblical misinterpretation for the sake of core Greek beliefs. And in doing so, it maligns the truth and the heart of God.

This is the reason Psalm 68:11 could be mistranslated for millennia. Psalm 68 was an important Psalm to the early church. They saw it as prophetic of the era of the New Covenant. And though in the original language it says, *“Adonai gives the command; the women with the good news are a mighty army”* (Complete Jewish Bible), it was mistranslated by most translators—from the KJV to the early versions of the NIV—to remove the word that inescapably says, *“women”* and replace it with, *“company”* and other words devoid of its truly feminine meaning.

This bias is responsible for the fact that repeatedly throughout the Psalms the word, *“alamoth”* remains untranslated, although it clearly means a psalm to be sung by women, and bias is responsible for the gross mishandling of verses like Romans 16:1-2 when, speaking of Phoebe. Paul refers to her as a leader/ruler of many and of himself (not the condescending *“servant,” “patron,” “friend,”* or *“helper”* that is usually used). In fact, this is the only time in the Bible this word is used in the feminine form. Where it is used in the masculine form, it refers to rulers and is never translated to refer to a man as a servant, patron, friend, or helper.

These biases are responsible for reasoning away Philip’s prophesying daughters (Acts 21:9), Mary’s reference to Jesus as her own Rabbi (John 20:16-17), the references to Prisca/Priscilla teaching Apollos (Acts 18), the reference by Paul to her being a *“fellow worker”* (Greek: *“sunergos”* = co-laborer) in Jesus Christ (Romans 16:3). It is responsible for the reasoning away of the references to many women as *“deaconesses”* (and no, this is not just a reference to them being married to deacons since some are mentioned by name without reference to a husband at all) and for the persistent translation of the word *“adelphos”* as *“brothers”* when it means all those from the same womb, brothers and sisters.

Though we should respect and learn from many of the early church leaders, we must filter out all that contradicts Scripture. Wherever Greek thought caused them to skew the words and heart of God, we must not allow ourselves to blindly follow. What they spoke in the first few centuries after Christ should not be weighted equally with God’s inerrant Word through man. This is why it is okay to learn from Augustine and yet completely disagree with him on his views of women, marriage, and enjoyment of life. Here the great theologian was following Plato instead of Jesus. The same is true for many: Tertullian, Origen through Luther, and on to the present day.

What About Paul?

So, did Paul get it wrong? Should we throw out the massive portions of the New Testament that Paul wrote? In fact, Paul is responsible for many of the references that support women in ministry. He is not contradicting himself in the two (and there are only two) so-called,

“troublesome” Scriptures nor is he calling New Covenant believers to come under a law that not even Old Covenant adherents were called to. Paul would not call Phoebe to less liberty than Deborah.

It was those who interpreted his words through their Greek lens who got it wrong. If you approach Scripture with Greek-based disdain for women, you grab onto these two “troublesome” Scriptures and then everything else that you read gets filtered through that framework. Instead of looking at the life and words of Jesus and interpreting Paul’s writing through that lens, the words of Paul were interpreted through the lens of Greek philosophy.

These Scriptures become significantly less troublesome when read in the full light of Scripture, in light of Jesus’ behavior and with a look into the context and Greek meanings behind the Scriptures. (I invite you to access my own look into these verses. It is free and available at amiloper.com on my Resources page.)

Some Greek thinking was certainly in line with the truths of Scripture as the Greeks pursued goodness, virtue and justice. But it also diverged greatly from the truth of Scripture and ensnared a great many. Paul warned against all worldly and false philosophies (not just Greek) when he said, *“See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ” (Colossians 2:8)*. Yet the Church leaders of the first century went so far in their emulation of the ancient Greek teachers who pre-dated Jesus, that Justin Martyr said that Greek philosophers who “lived reasonably [were] Christians” without Christ and without faith in His sacrifice for them.

Back to the Garden

Although Jesus undoubtedly saw this sad division coming, it was contrary to His will. His will was to bring the Kingdom to earth and that Kingdom had unity at its core—unity first and foremost with our Creator and Lord and unity with one another as it was intended from the beginning in the first Garden.

By declaring the Kingdom, Jesus was reinstating the Garden experience. The cross recaptured our ability to be without sin by the blood of our Savior. By doing so, we are able to return to union with the Lord, our authority and dominion in the earth and our identity as delegated ambassadors.

The New Garden also permits us to return to equal responsibility and authority as the Adams and the Eves stand shoulder to shoulder to fill the earth with God’s glory. If we’ve missed that women and men are to go into all the world to preach equally, we’ve missed part of the point of the Gospel. The curses of Genesis 3 were broken as Jesus became the curse for us (Galatians 3:13). Why are we still calling for a segment of people to live under it? Jesus took our sins in His body on the tree (1 Peter 2:24) that we might live curse-free, bringing the Kingdom to earth, reestablishing God’s rule and reign in every corner of our lives and of the world.

I want to be a Kingdom bringer, a partner with God to reinstate the first Garden, doing my all to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Ephesians 4:3). I want to bring heaven to earth—that’s Kingdom—and there is no jostling for position in heaven, no saying who’s in and who’s out based on the differences of our creation or our earth-bound status. I want to work shoulder to shoulder with my fellow Adams and Eves, basking in the unveiled Presence of God and bringing God’s rule and reign to hearts and minds throughout this God-formed planet.

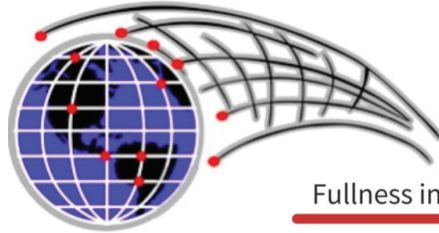


Ami Loper loves all things cozy: hot tea, thick blankets and slippers. She’s even been known to turn the air conditioning on so she can light the fireplace of her Arizona home. A gleeful puzzler, a persistent solution-finder, a hunter of clarity, Ami finds her joy in discovering connections and truths tucked in corners of the Word of God. She and her husband love few things more than surrounding themselves with their children and

their growing number of grandchildren. Ami’s mission is to use the challenges she’s been through to resource others into their freedom. Through her writing and preaching ministry, she delivers hope and practical tools to inspire a deeper relationship with the Lord and with His Word, bringing greater freedom to live abundant, transformed lives.

Connect with Ami at amiloper.com and on the socials:

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Jay and Jennifer Peikert are prophets and ministers who travel all over the world preaching the Gospel, healing the sick, being a prophetic voice to the nations and seeing signs, wonders and miracles everywhere they go. They have been to Japan, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Mexico, Honduras, Cuba and different places in the U.S.A. Jennifer is also an accomplished author. She has written 4 books with one translated in Spanish.

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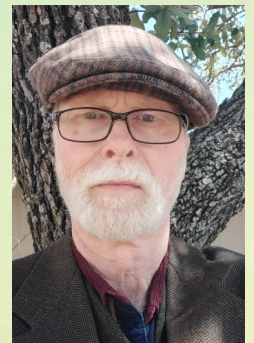
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Dr. Tom Reedy

Tom has served as a pastor and church planter for 30 years (12 years as a Baptist pastor). He received his education from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He served as a pastor of Southern Baptist churches until he was filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit with the gift of healings, prophecy, and a ministry of deliverance. He was commissioned as an Apostle/Teacher in 1990. Ras Robinson became his spiritual father in 1987, resulting in a vital connection with the “Fullness” message.

Dr. Reedy has published under his own publishing company, Roar Publications (Roarpublications@gmail.com), five books entitled *The Hand of Zerubbabel* (1994), *Wrestling with God: Evangelicals and the Holy Spirit* (2015); and *For the Joy: Praise and the Cross of Christ* (2020), *The Apostle: Metaphors of an Emerging Ministry* (2021), and *The Five-Fold Ministry and the Armor of God* (2021). Dr. Reedy publishes online content on his website: www.thomas-reedy.com YouTube: “Eyes Wide Open”.



Budd Rodgers



Budd Rodgers is the Managing Editor of Fullness Magazine Online. He graduated from Texas Tech University with a degree in Business Administration. Budd has been in Ministry for 40 plus years in various capacities, including pastoring and church planting. He is the founder of Shepherd’s Voice Ministries Inc., a 501(c)3 prophetic ministry. He has an anointing to activate every generation to promote the kingdom of God and is available as an itinerant minister.

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The Mother Heart OF FATHER GOD

by Beverly Robinson
from *Original Fulness* 1988

Beverly Robinson, founding Publisher of *Fullness Magazine Online* had a column in the original *Fulness Magazine*. We want you to enjoy the words of a woman who, in many churches, was the first woman to stand in a pulpit and preach. Bev showed enormous courage and stamina to speak the words of God in atmospheres that did not always appreciate “A Woman’s Perspective”. Because of Ras and Bev’s commitment to the scripture and devotion to God, many have been blessed through the years by her words. The following is from her “A Woman’s Perspective” column in the September/October 1988 issue of *Fulness Magazine* – enjoy!

One day I ran across a scripture that was especially intriguing to me: **“As one whom His mother comforts, so I will comfort you” (Isaiah 66:3)**. God had compared Himself to a mother in giving comfort.

God has often illustrated this dimension of His personality to me, but one time particularly stands out. While trying to understand an emotionally difficult time, I described to Ras how I was feeling. He nodded with a caring smile and hugged me. The next morning, in passing conversation, he said something that let me know he didn’t have clue as to how I was feeling.

If I didn’t understand what was going on with me, how could I expect him to? I went to Psalms as I usually do for consolation and comfort. As I read Psalm 56, God spoke to me in the eighth verse, **“Thou hast taken account of my wanderings; Put my tears in Thy bottle; are they not in Thy book?”** God understood! He has taken account of my wanderings. He, in mother-like precision and comfort had put my tears in His bottle. What peace that had brought to my soul.

A few nights ago, God showed me another quite different facet of His “mother” heart. Ras was out of town, and I stayed up past midnight finishing a large piece of calligraphy. I was tired and wanted to go straight to bed. Urchin, our cat who had four three-week-old kittens, had gone outside earlier. I thought, *“I’ll give her some more rest away from the kittens and not call her in.”* I raised the

screenless window to the patio, thinking she could find her own way inside. As I fell into bed, I went immediately to sleep.


My slumber ended abruptly a couple of hours later as I was awakened by the sound of fiercely screaming cats. I bounded out of bed, heading toward the kittens. The speed of the mind is amazing. In a split second I thought of what I was told as a child about tom cats eating kittens. I also remembered having seen a possum on the patio a few days earlier. Maybe it had the kittens.

In the dimly lit hall I saw two black streaks coming. They ran across my feet and on into the front of the house. I heard cat howls round and round and then silence. Whatever it was went out the window. When I reached the kittens, they were wide-eyed and stacked on top of each other, as if plastered in the corner. Urchin had returned to the bathroom to protect further what was hers.

In my rush to get to the kittens in the bathroom, I accidentally turned on the heater along with the light. When I turned the heater off, it continued to pop and crack while cooling down. Then my stomach—not being accustomed to being awakened so suddenly—began to growl. Urchin answered with her own growl at each unknown sound.

After closing the patio window, I lay on the bathroom floor for a while, petting the kittens until all of us had settled down. By now I was wide awake, so I decided to study some. I picked up my Bible and a concordance and got back in bed. I looked up a scripture that says, **“So I will be like a lion to them; Like a leopard I will lie in wait by the wayside. I will encounter them like a bear robbed of her cubs. . .” (Hosea 13:7-8)**. God said to me, **“If you will let Me, I will protect you from your enemies (fear, doubt, condemnation, rejection)—just the way Urchin took care of her kittens.”** Meditating and rejoicing in that thought I stretched, yawned, curled up and went to sleep—just like a kitten.

(Transcribed by Dale Simmons)



MERCY IN THE MIDDLE

by Jodi Rodgers

Jodi Rodgers is the oldest daughter and middle child of Budd Rodgers, our Managing Editor. The following introduction gives our readers some insight into her life as you read her article.

I have been blessed with three children, all who are serving in ministry in one capacity or another. Each of them, although individuals themselves, have traits from their mother and me, but even greater traits come from their heavenly Father.

Today, as a way of introducing Jodi's article entitled, Mercy in the Middle, I want you to know that Jodi has had an awareness of spiritual things from a very early age. She was born again at the age of four. Baptized shortly thereafter and was always hungry for "more" of God. Although far from perfect, she is one of those individuals who has learned how to love the unlovely, forgive the hurtful, encourage the fainthearted and has also endured some terrible tragedies. She has an ability to feel the hearts of others and a tremendous gift of communicating that love of Father God to those who hear her message. If I sound like a bragging father, I hope that someday you can meet her yourself and find that I am not stretching it a bit.

Jodi has served in youth ministry for 22 plus years, ordained as a pastor, served multiple times in missionary capacities overseas in 18 different countries. When she graduated from high school, she became an Intern for a year at Youth with A Mission (YWAM) and Dr. Ron Luce in Lindale, Texas.

Currently, she is a full-time missionary to the students of the East Phoenix Valley, Arizona. – Budd Rodgers

Very few people are unfamiliar with the classic hymn "Amazing Grace" within and outside of the religious community. Some people are completely unaware that one of the lines in this song was taken directly from scripture. "I once was blind, but now I see" was the response a man gave to a crowd demanding an answer of how he had been healed (John 9:25). True to our human nature, we have this drive within us to know HOW things come to be, and the crowds in Jesus' day were no different. This man who had been blind since birth was now emphatically proclaiming he could see. Here was a guy that had been a regular fixture in the surroundings of the streets, and often disregarded. How could this be? The questions from the crowd and the Pharisees were ongoing and left the people with more questions than answers.

Sometimes, we look at life and demand answers. But unfortunately, that common demand for answers can be a blindness far greater than the physical blindness from which this man had been healed. We see a man, blind from birth, and now, he is seeing; so, what happened in the middle? The mystery of what happens in the middle was never supposed to be a formula to be replicated. What they didn't realize was that the answer wasn't a fact; it was a face.

The mystery that was found in the middle of the miracle was Jesus. When questioned about the mystery of this man's healing power, his response was beautiful... **"Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know; I was blind but now I see!"** In essence, the man stated he didn't have the answer to the

how, the answer was found in the evidence of a changed life. The same goes for us. We may not know HOW God changes our lives, but I know I was once one way and since I met Jesus, I am now completely different. It's okay



that the “how” is a mystery to me because all I need to know is the “Who” that is responsible for a change like this.

Many of you have been following my health journey with my eyes. A year ago, I was in incredible pain and was unable to even go outside as my eyes were so severely inflamed in every way. I spent weeks seeing specialist to only be pushed further up the medical “food chain”. The last stop landed me in the Mayo clinic, undergoing a series of tests that provided me with little answers and hefty bills. I know they were doing the best they could,



but I needed to go to the Great Physician. I spent time seeking Jesus, asking Him for wisdom, studying His word and the promises that are available to me as a child of God. I changed my eating habits and became

a better steward of my physical body. I came to a point where I did what I could do, and I knew God could do whatever He wanted to do. I surrendered the entire situation to Him and continued to walk in obedience to what He had asked me to do. I am so grateful to say that I had my six-month check-up, and my eyes are “stable” and have even improved! My doctor asked me the same question this man was asked: How? All I could tell her was “*I was once blind, but now I see.*” Today, instead of demanding answers for your situations, rest in the mystery that is found in the person of Jesus. He wants to meet you where you are and bring change that can’t be humanly replicated, but will last forever.



Jodi Rodgers currently resides in Mesa, Arizona with her daughter, Amanda. Her love for the Lord and the people of this world has led her to 18 different countries sharing the life-changing message of Jesus Christ! Today, she is serving the Lord in full-time ministry as a missionary to the students of the East Phoenix Area, and is the Student Ministries Director at her local church, New Season Christian Fellowship. The tools she has gained from being in ministry 22 years and as a

Certified Temperament Counselor help her navigate the unique challenges teens face today. You can find out more about the work she is doing by checking out her webpage at www.reliant.org/Jodi.Rodgers or emailing her at jodi.rodgers@reliant.org.



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LISTEN TO HER

Voice



by Anderick Biddle

Throughout the years there has been much debate about the role of women in ministry. Despite differing viewpoints, it is clear in the Scriptures that capable women have served as leaders, judges, and prophetesses throughout the history of Israel and the church. So, what is it that seems to be missing in our understanding that continues to fuel this debate?

What Is Ministry?

Before we dive into the role of women in ministry, we should first make sure that we have a clear understanding of ministry. However, we should probably steer clear of any contemporary interpretations or definitions of the word. The first time the word ministry is translated in Scripture in reference to the work of the sanctuary is Numbers 4:12. The word translated here is “*shareth*,” and on the surface, it simply refers to work done in service of others. However, the Hebrew language itself allows us to gain a more complete and concrete understanding because each letter is a picture of something. As a result, each word also creates a visual image that helps us to accurately apply the meaning of each word. For example, the Hebrew word for Father (*abba*) is an image of a tent pole. This means that we can more clearly understand the role of an *abba* by examining the function of tent pole. So, what is the function of a tent pole? It is to lift up the tent and raise the household towards Heaven. Pretty

interesting right? The Hebrew language is unique in that it is not only written in a way that allows you to hear what God is saying, but it also allows you to see what God is saying. Now you can see that God does not only defines a father as a male who has children, but as the one who supports and lifts his household toward Heaven.

So, what is the pictographic image of the Hebrew word which is translated as ministry? It is a picture of someone serving others on God’s behalf, removing obstacles that prevent them from connecting with God and helping them to fulfill their purpose. This means that the original idea or definition of ministry is not about preaching, and it is certainly not limited to fulfilling some sort of pastoral role. In the eyes of God, ministry is done by anyone who uses his or her gifts, talents and resources to bring people closer to Him and the fulfillment of His will and purpose in their lives. Regardless of the work or service someone provides, when they do it as if as they are allowing God to do the work through them; then they are doing “*shareth*” (or ministry).

***“Whatever you do [no matter what it is] in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus [and in dependence on Him], giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”
- Colossians 3:17 AMP***

The verse above is the essence and mindset of someone who genuinely operates in ministry. This definition of

ministry is not exclusive of women or children. As a matter of fact, once God even used a donkey to minister (Numbers 22:21-30).

The Identity & Role of Women

Now that we have brought some clarity to the Hebrew meaning of the word translated as ministry, let us now look at the identity and role of women to see if they can, in fact, fulfill this role. According to the Scriptures, the woman was taken out of man. So, then it is no coincidence that the Hebrew word for woman, “*Ishah*”, is derived from the word *ish* which refers to man. With one notable difference, the word *ishah* concludes with the Hebrew letter “*hey*” which is a letter whose image represents divine revelation and insight.

Throughout history, women have often been described as having a certain kind of intuition or sense of discernment that has proven to be quite useful in leading God’s people. Well now, we know why, because when God made women, He created them with a unique sense of divine revelation and insight. One significant example of this found in Scripture is when Sarah tells Abraham (the father of faith) to cast out his son Ishmael and his mother, Hagar. Displeased with the words of his wife, Abraham sought clarity from the LORD who responded with the following words:

“...Whatever Sarah has said to you, listen to her voice...” Genesis 21:12 NKJV

Notice, God didn’t tell Abraham to listen to Sarah’s words, but to listen to her “*voice*”. The Hebrew word translated as voice is “*qol*”, and it does not just refer to a sound but to a voice of revelation that one must follow. The first time this word is used in Scripture is in Genesis 3:8 where God’s voice is described as “walking” through the Garden. So, in the context of Genesis 21, God was not just telling Abraham to listen to Sarah’s words but to follow (or walk behind) the insight and revelation that she was given.

The Voice of Discernment

Throughout biblical history, women have demonstrated a strong sense of discernment that is invaluable in ministry. Their capacity for understanding and wisdom has often been vital in providing guidance in spiritual matters and in daily life. In ministry, the voice of women is one of discernment and help that the church cannot do without. As women serve in various roles, their unique perspectives, insights, and wisdom contribute significantly to the growth and success of the church.

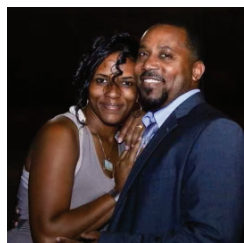
The Hebrew word for the kind of discernment and insight that comes from divine revelation is the word “*biynah*”. Those who have this gift of discernment can help provide direction and divine strategy for the current times. In the history of Israel, those who were discerning were strategically positioned in or near positions of leadership. One popular example of this from Scripture is found recorded in the book of Chronicles.

“of the sons of Issachar who had understanding of the times, to know what Israel ought to do, their chiefs were two hundred; and all their brethren were at their command.” 1 Chronicles 12:32 NKJV (emphasis added)

The word here translated as “understanding” is “*biynah*” (or discernment). Notice this Scripture teaches that all of Israel, “followed” the “command” of the discerning voices of Issachar. Why? Because they understood that there was a greater reward or benefit in following the voices of discernment. By the way, this mention of the men of Issachar being discerning is quite notable because historically this heightened sense of discernment they possessed was less common among men than in women.

One more detail that speaks volumes to the discussion of the role of women in ministry is the fact that both women and the Holy Spirit are similarly described as “helpers.” In Hebrew this word is “*ezer*” and it is a picture of being able to separate or discern between things. This comparison is more than just a linguistic coincidence; but, it reveals the profound significance of women’s roles in the ministry of the Kingdom of God. Women were created to help bring forth God’s revelation to His people. To help God’s people discern what it is that we should do in the times that we live.

If ministry is about serving others by bringing people closer to God and helping them to fulfill His will and purpose in their lives, then we cannot afford to silence the voice of women. Like God instructed Abraham, we must listen to her voice of revelation. We must also follow her voice of understanding and discernment as we seek the full revelation of and expansion of God’s Kingdom on Earth as it is in Heaven.



Anderick and Shirron Biddle are the best-selling authors of “Marriage Works: 7 Steps to Renovate Your Marriage”. They are also the founders of Marriage Renovators, through which they offer courses, coaching and retreats to help Christian couples build strong and lasting relationships.

You can learn more about their ministry and resources that they provide to help Christian couples at www.marriagerenovators.com

Warrior Woman: Unstoppable Obedience



by Nena Gates

I've been blessed to know many female generals in the faith, which makes it hard to pick and choose from whom to write about since I've gleaned so much from so many. There have been so many that have paved the way for women like me who didn't have a clue what being in ministry truly meant. My personal journey has been a sad, delightful, tiring, yet exciting one.

My time in ministry started 20+ years ago when I met my husband. Although I had been a Sunday school teacher and helped with outreach before that, it wasn't until I was married to a minister that my entire experience changed.

I had been a single mother (divorced) who had come from a very abusive background. I had even been close to death on one occasion, but that's another story for a different day. I had decided due to my experience that I didn't want to be married again and that I was just fine going through life with just my God, my daughter and me. Boy was I in for an awakening. God not only brought me my husband but two additional children, as well as an entire congregation. I had never been a stepmom much less a mother to a church body of people that needed to be guided so badly. Our congregation was mainly made up of people who had come out of drugs, alcohol and violence. I didn't share those experiences with drugs, or any other substances so I had no idea how to navigate any of that either. I would get in my prayer closet and beg the Lord for guidance, strength and patience. Yes, I was dumb enough to pray for patience. It was such a trying time for us as a couple, family and as ministers!!! My husband had been a raging drug addict, alcoholic, weapons trafficker, and he had even trafficked women all over the world in his life before me, so he was familiar with how to Shepard his sheep. I had a background in medicine and had even built a small business for myself along the way as a single

mom, but none of that prepared me for that type of life. We would get phone calls at all hours of the day and night by women who had been kidnapped by their ex-boyfriend who wouldn't let them go, so I would make sure that someone would come over and stay with our kids, and my husband and I would go kick down the door to get her out! We had times where we would take entire families into our home and leave for dinner only to return to find everything in our house had been stolen.

During my pregnancy with our twin sons, I was hit by a lady who was high on Meth (a drug) which caused me to crash our car and go into premature labor. We ended up losing one of our sons, but the Lord intervened and saved the other one. I became so sick during that ordeal due to diabetes, hemorrhaging from the crash and anemia that I couldn't work. My husband had a business that failed due to faulty management, but he was the owner, so he took full responsibility for it and was sued by the state for it. He couldn't get hired by anyone because no one in ministry wanted to be associated with us, and since everyone knows everyone, he couldn't get ANY work at all. His depression grew and grew after the death of our son, business failure and my illness. Unfortunately, with the depression, he grew further and further away from the Lord, as well. God was trying so hard to keep him close, but the enemy continued to kick his door down! I say all of this as a precursor to what happened next. He went back into the dark world of drug making. He knew that I would never approve; so, he hid it from me.

He would disappear for days at a time, and I wouldn't know where he was or what he was doing. I would call everyone that we knew to see if they had heard from him or seen him. I would call hospitals, police and anyone else that I thought might know where he was or if he was okay.

One night when I was crying out to the Lord, I heard him audibly say “Ask Me where he is.” It seemed so simple that I couldn’t believe that I had never thought about it before. Right then and there I asked the Lord where he was and immediately the Lord answered, and he also gave me an open vision of what had been going on.

Psalms 34:18 “The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.” is what kept going through my head as I realized how much God was fine tuning the gifts that he had put in me. My discernment, as well as prophetic gifts, were reaching a new level that was unheard of. I knew where he was, and I enlisted my friend to ride with me to go bring him home. God had shown me the numbers on the house, and I knew that this is where my husband was to be found. I could tell that there were all kinds of seedy activities going on, and an anger that I had never had before began to well up inside of me!!! I kicked the door open, walked in, found my husband and took him home!!!

He confessed everything that had happened and wept as he told me that he felt the only way he could provide for his family was by going back to the darkness of drug-making that he had done so many years before. He explained that if he stopped that we would have nothing, no money, home, car, nothing. My response was no we won’t, but we will have each other, our family and God. We did end up homeless, penniless, and had nothing but each other, BUT GOD!! We ended up living in a car that belonged to a friend of ours that was about to be impounded which sat in the parking lot of a motel. Arrangements were made for my daughter to stay with my friend and her daughters so that she would have a bed and stability with school. My newborn son, husband and I stayed in the car for a month and a half. We would travel to the next state everyday so that my husband could work all day, and I would sit in the car with the



baby and two dogs for 8 hours. I would spend that time in prayer with the Lord, and he would give me strategies and downloads of how we would go forward. I would read books about other women in ministry and all their trials and tribulations. I would read the word and sing worship songs to my son to keep him happy. We loved worshipping together and when my husband was done working, we would drive two hours back to see my daughter.

The Lord opened the doors for us to have a place to live and to begin to minister again. I was amazed at how strong my faith had become. I know now that He was preparing me for more that was to come.

Soon after, I began to have pain in my stomach and later learned that I miscarried. I hadn’t been too far along, but it was still difficult to deal with because I had already lost a son that I had carried almost full-term. God gave me **2 Corinthians 1:4 “He comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others. When they are troubled, we**

will be able to give them the same.” A short time after that I was diagnosed with cervical cancer stage 2. Having a background in medicine I knew what the oncologist would want me to do. Due to anemia, diabetes and other health issues, the doctors said the risk was too high to operate and he recommended chemotherapy. Immediately there was something in my spirit that wasn’t right. I went home and began to pray and seek the Lord about it. That night I had a dream that I was healed, and that God was so glorified in it that I woke up sobbing with tears of joy. In that moment, I heard the Lord audibly say to me **“Do NOT fill your body with poison, I will heal you”**. I knew the voice of my Father in heaven had spoken, so I told my husband that I refused to take their treatment. Derrick (my husband) was a mighty man of faith, but I could see the fear on his face when I told him. I went through two years of pain, suffering and loneliness. Even though my husband believed, he couldn’t stand to see me suffer. He would ask me why aren’t you doing everything you can to stay with us? It was so difficult to try to make him understand and stand on the word that the Lord had given me for all of us especially when we got the news that the cancer had progressed to stage 4. I changed my diet, took vitamins, and tried all kinds of natural remedies that I could find during that time. None of it worked but I continued to hang on to what the Lord had told me! I told Derrick that he needed to believe that if he was truly a man of God, then he needed to walk in it and cast out ALL fear!!!! There was a big prayer meeting that was happening about two hours away and most of our church members wanted to go and be a part of it. I wasn’t feeling up to it at all and was going to stay home, but I heard the Lord say to go. He didn’t tell me why, but I knew in my heart it was important. With tears running down my face I traveled the two hours to get there. I had been in prayer the night before and cried out to God asking him when I would get my healing. All I heard him say to me was **“when I receive the most glory and the most honor”**. When we arrived at the meeting the worship was so thick with the presence of God that I could hardly stand. We all sat down, and I could see thousands of people everywhere. They didn’t have chairs to put people in, so they were on the floor. I began to worship and almost immediately I could feel a burning heat in the tips of my toes. It was moving slowly up my legs, and I leaned over to Derrick and said **“this heat is so hot that it burns”!** He looked at me and said, **“God is healing you right now”!** No sooner had that come from his mouth, the evangelist said, **“the Lord just said that a woman over here has a grapefruit size tumor on her left ovary and the Lord is healing it right now”!** I WAS healed and it was broadcast all over the world where HE received ALL the honor and ALL the glory.

Things went to another level that we had never experienced after that. God used me to lay hands on people with cancer and heal them; our ministry began to see more signs miracles and wonders that we had ever seen!

We began to travel and help plant churches all over the United States. We traveled as a family because we

had seen too many amazing ministries torn apart with families that spent too much time separated that it led to their downfall. Our home church began to see less and less attendees, and we knew that the Lord was closing the doors to that season of our lives. I had no idea that he was preparing us for the lion's den so to speak.

Everything that I had ever heard about California was terrible. There were so many prophecies throughout the years about how the state would drop off into the ocean never to be heard from again. We had never had any desire to live there despite years of traveling there for ministry purposes, and we couldn't imagine why God would tell us both that we were to move our family there. His exact words to us were, "You are to go and assassinate the counterfeit mimicking spirit there and help usher in a spirit of authenticity." We both said you have the wrong people! We were obedient to His words, although we were reluctant, and moved.

Two weeks after our entire family of seven moved (which included 3 spiritual kids), COVID lock downs hit Los Angeles and everything was shut down. No one would show us houses or potential church buildings. We started meeting wherever we could, and since we had been having meetings throughout the years, it wasn't long before we had a core group together. Soon, the state demanded that we close the church down for our own good and safety. It was astounding to me how most of the churches had no issues with it. They allowed the state to dictate to them when and if their doors were open, instead of listening to God. For the second time in my life, I felt that anger well up inside of me that this was not okay!!! Why weren't people standing up for the church? Why didn't they know that if they relinquished power to the state that it would be so much harder to get it back?!!! God spoke and said "You must be on the frontlines, that is why I moved you here." We began going to protests, then we began to organize the protests!! At one point, our team was responsible for 10,000+ people protesting in front of city hall. God was giving us favor with people, politicians and church leaders. We had no idea what we were doing or how to do it, we looked to the Lord for guidance. We fought the system for two years until God threw us another loop. The Lord told my husband to run for U.S. Congress.

Neither one of us knew what that looked like but again we were obedient and did as He instructed us to do. We saw the good, bad, ugly and uglier of the system. We had politicians who guaranteed that my husband would get into office if we agreed to give them what they wanted once he was in office. One politician even threatened to kill our entire family if we didn't quit running. I know it sounds crazy and far-fetched, but it really did happen and even though I officially didn't hold the title of campaign manager; I was one in every way. I would schedule his meetings, speaking engagements; I walked the

neighborhoods and knocked on doors, made calls to raise money, pastored the church and took care of my family, as well. I was able to raise \$30,000, and the person that was paid to run against my husband raised 2.5 million. My husband only lost by 2,000 votes. We made so many Godly relationships, and He showed us how to navigate a system that was so dark. We had so much warfare during that time that it was difficult to function some days. I had been free and clear of cancer for six years, and then it came back during that time. This time I heard the Lord say that he had healed me once so he would do it again.

I'm currently at stage 2, and I continue to trust that my healing is coming; it is not a matter of if I will be healed, but when. I have since gone back to work in the secular world. I'm teaching pre-school at a private school where I'm able to pour into the lives of young children who are full of love and life. We continue to help our community through outreach on skid row which is over 200,000 men, women, and children who live on the streets of L.A. We take food, clothing, toiletries and the message of Jesus as often as we have the means to do it. The Lord has given us favor in the area of faith, politics, community, media and education. I point this out because I'm still amazed by what being obedient has done! My husband and I have a podcast show that has aired all over the world, I've done TV shows on prominent Christian networks, and I've preached as well as taught at many different churches.

I give ALL the honor and ALL the glory to God! He is where I get my strength, courage and Holy Ghost tenacity. I call it Holy Ghost tenacity because it's called stubborn in the secular world, but when it comes from God it's HIS tenacity that won't allow you to be moved or shaken! If any women out there want a little bit of advice, let me start by saying get on your face and really spend some time with God. Hearing and knowing His voice is the only way to be in HIS will and not your own. "Faith comes by hearing and hearing comes by the word of God!"

My gifts, hearing him, Holy Spirit tenacity, love, understanding, faith and hope ALL come from my JESUS! HE is the reason that I get up every day and that I have something to live and be thankful for. I love it when I hear people say oh that's just false humility, but I'm here to tell you that in my case it's nothing but the truth! God is my sun and my husband and children are the planets that revolve around Him.

Nena Gates has been in ministry for 20 years and has helped plant 39 churches all over the United States. She is also a



pastor of 412LA. Nena is the mother of 4, small business owner, and teacher at a private school in California. Currently, she is the president of the Southbay California Republican Assembly, Deputy Senate director of the 35th district, and Deputy Faith Outreach Director for the California Republican Assembly.

Should Women be in Ministry?



Should women be in the ministry? Frankly, the answer to this question is not one any Man has a legal right to determine.

“In the beginning God (Hebrew for “Elohim”, The Father, The Son and The Holy Spirit) created the heavens and the earth...Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them... These are the generations of the heavens and of the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens,” Genesis 1:1, 2:1,4 (emphasis added)

The word LORD in Genesis 2:4 in the Hebrew language is the name of God, Yehovah or Jehovah, which means Self-existing, Eternal One. The word God in the Hebrew language is Elohim, which is Yehovah's rank or position, He being the supreme authority of His creation. The literal definitions of His name indicate: 1) He is the only living being who will ever be eternally self-existing, and 2) He is the only one with the legal right to define any part of the creation He made as its sole Creator. So, this is why the answer to the question, “Should women be in the ministry?” isn't one any Man can answer. It's literally not Man's place to define the purpose of a creation. The answer to this question can only be answered by asking the question, “*What was and is Yehovah Elohim's purpose for creating woman or Man-female period?*”

We will explore the Word of God by the leadership of the Spirit of God for the answer to this question, because the scripture says, “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.” (Romans 8:14) We already know that Yehovah Elohim created Man in general, Man-male and Man-female, in Their image and after Their likeness, to have dominion over all the earth and over all the works of Their hands. (Genesis 1:26-28, Psalms 8:6) All the works of Their hands would include the things that are

visible and the things that are invisible. (Colossians 1:16) Since all visible and invisible things were created by Them and for Them, Man-male and Man-female's purpose must necessarily be located within this truth that they each exist for Yehovah Elohim's purposes and plan. Considering all of this, Yehovah Elohim defined woman, Man-female, as a spirit-being, made with the self-existing, eternal capability to exercise an authority on par with His own, in and from the unseen arena, over spiritual darkness' perverted, unseen influence upon the seen arena. So, whether a woman is married or single, a business owner or a “stay at home mom”, a singer in the church choir or called as a minister of the gospel, her Self-Existing, Eternal Creator, the only living being who has the legal right to define every part of His own creation has said, and has the expectation, for her to successfully live in alignment with His definition of her created purpose we just described. For any part of creation to reject or attempt to redefine Yehovah's definition for Man-female gives us the literal definition of pride. This again is because no part of Yehovah's creation is self-existing or the Creator.

Yes, we as Man-males and Man-females are spirit-beings who are eternal in nature, and we are created spirit, eternal beings. This is true of divine and fallen angels also. Another reason why any part of Yehovah's creation rejecting or redefining the purpose of Man-female is the definition of pride, is the simple fact that everything outside of Yehovah himself falls into the category of creation, and not Creator. Creation was not granted the legality to change the Self-Existing, Eternal Creator's purposes or plans for themselves or for one another. For example, when my wife and I were expecting our daughter, we initially thought to name her a unique blend of our first names, Terriana. The Holy Spirit spoke to us and said not to name her Terriana, but Victoriya Eilayne, meaning victorious, shining light. We obeyed the Spirit of God and did so, and we are very glad we did

because when Victoriya began to walk as a toddler, you could see her upper torso was curved to the right. Her pediatrician diagnosed her with severe scoliosis and told us Victoriya would need to wear a brace for some time to correct the curvature in her spine. Later, my wife and I did what Jesus taught believers to do in Mark 16:17-18,

“And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.”

We laid hands on Victoriya’s back and used our authority in faith for this wonderful promise to be manifested for our little one. Two months later we went to the specialist Victoriya’s pediatrician referred us to for our daughter to be fitted for a brace. Since the specialists’ office didn’t inform us to bring Victoriya’s original x-rays, she had to take x-rays again. As we waited in the doctor’s office for the fitting of the brace, the doctor seemed to take an exorbitant amount of time to come to us. When he finally did arrive, he told us to keep praying for our daughter as we had been because the new x-rays reflected her spine was completely straight. Victoriya did not need a brace after all. As we continued to rejoice later, the Spirit of God spoke to us and said, *“That’s why I told you to name her Victoriya. I knew what the enemy would try to do, and I had you speaking victory over her already to combat it.”* 1 Corinthians 14:40 says,

“Let all things be done decently and in order.”

One meaning of the Greek word for “done” in this verse is miracles. Mark 16:20 says,

“And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.”

One of the meanings of the Greek word “signs” in this verse is miracles. The 1828 Webster’s Dictionary defines a miracle as, *“...a deviation from the known laws of nature; a supernatural event (or a spiritual law in action– added by author).”* Putting all this together, when creation doesn’t reject or attempt to redefine Yehovah’s definitions, but respects them, we also are respecting His decent and orderly ways. When we do, we give Yehovah the opportunity to supernaturally establish or manifest His ordained order He has defined for and in any given situation. In essence, we get to experience the exact intention of what Yehovah created His creation to be and do in the seen and/or unseen arenas. Praise God!

With this said, the question must be asked, where did the school of thought, and for some the practice of, *“Should a woman be in the ministry”* come from? Since Yehovah Elohim, as a spirit-being, created both the heaven and the earth with His spoken, faith-filled Word, and since He did so from heavenly places in the unseen realm, to determine the answer for such a question we would need to include both sides of Yehovah Elohim’s creation, the

spirit and the natural realms. Let’s first understand how Yehovah ordained the spirit-realm and the natural-realm’s relationship. Again, in Genesis 1:1 Yehovah Elohim made the heaven first, the spirit-realm, and the earth second, the natural-realm. This order of creation is important to note because it speaks to rank and priority. Yehovah, as a spirit-being, created the spirit-realm first in order and priority. Then He created the earth or the natural-realm second in rank or priority. However, Genesis 2:4 and Romans 1:20 further teach us that as believers in Jesus, although the spirit-realm is first in rank and priority, we can gain spiritual understanding and intelligence of the unseen arena starting with the seen arena, even though it is second in rank or priority. This teaches us that when seeking understanding of anything Yehovah Elohim has created, spiritual or natural, we can start from the spiritual perspective first or the natural perspective first, if our intent is to examine a “spiritual meaning” of a spiritual or natural thing. Either route, to do so would mean several things are needed:

- 1) **Your human spirit must be made alive and be born-again or become one with Christ’s spirit. (1 Corinthians 6:17)**
- 2) **You must also have the Baptism with the Holy Spirit because one aspect of the Holy Spirit’s ministry is to be our teacher in all things. (John 14:26)**
- 3) **You must speak with tongues by the power of the Holy Spirit because when a man speaks in a tongue he speaks in the spirit-realm and can receive natural interpretation of what he speaks. (1 Corinthians 14:2,13-15) and**
- 4) **You must allow the Holy Spirit to give you accurate, spiritual understanding of the Bible because Jesus said the words he spoke are spirit and life. (John 6:63)**

As a believer in Christ pursues spiritual intelligence in the “spiritual meaning” of a spiritual and/or natural thing, they must be soberly aware that they will encounter resistance from satan and his spiritual darkness. Revelation 12:9 teaches us that, *“Satan, deceiveth the whole world...”* The “-eth” at the end of the word deceiveth means that this is an ongoing action, similar to our “-ing” ending in the English language. The Bible defines itself. Therefore, the definition of deception can be found in James 1:22 AMPC:

“But be doers of the Word [obey the message], and not merely listeners to it, betraying yourselves [into deception by reasoning contrary to the Truth].”

Romans 1:25 KJV provides a second witness to this definition of deception:

“Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.”

When a believer in Christ sets their will to pursue in-depth spiritual intelligence of Yehovah’s Word and order, satan and spiritual darkness comes consistently to their

mind with deceptive thoughts, arguments, reasonings or images in a relentless effort to get the believer in Christ to promote this deception of worshipping and serving a part of creation more than the Self-Existing, Eternal Creator. (2Cor.10:3-5 AMPC) This is chiefly why the Holy Spirit through Apostle Paul in Romans 12:3 admonishes believers in Christ, "...not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly (or spiritually, from Yehovah's spiritual perspective – added by author)..."

We certainly can see this scenario being played out at the first century church in Ephesus, where our question of "Should women be in the ministry?" is generating quite a stir among the congregation and putting pressure on the young pastor Timothy. It is this passage in 1 Timothy 2:8-15 KJV whereby this school of thought and practice for some, gets their origin, specifically, verses 11 and 12. "Let the woman learn in silence with all subjection. But I suffer not a woman to teach, nor to usurp authority over the man, but to be in silence." The Holy Spirit through Apostle Paul explained in 2 Timothy 2:15 that the Word of truth must be rightly divided or accurately dissected for examination.

A surface level view of these two verses would indicate that Paul was saying that women should not be speaking and definitely not teaching in the church, but rather be in subjection to the men within the congregation. However, what do these verses say in context, from the original Koine Greek language they were translated from into English? The start of the context is established in chapter one of First Timothy, in the third and eighteenth verses.

The Holy Spirit through Paul is encouraging Timothy by reminding the young pastor of the initial instructions given to him concerning the Church in Ephesus, *"As I besought thee to abide still at Ephesus, when I went into Macedonia, that thou mightiest charge some that they teach no other doctrine...This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, according to the prophecies which went before on thee, that thou by them mightiest war a good warfare..."* Contextually, we see through this letter that the subject of false doctrine and practices were being done within the Church of Ephesus, and the Holy Spirit prompted Paul to have Timothy stay in Ephesus at some point with the assignment to teach the true Gospel and establish order among the new congregation of Gentile believers in Christ. Timothy is pastoring a church of believers in Christ who are former gentiles (probably mixed with some Jews) with a pagan religious background.

Not only that, he is responsible for teaching a gospel that is fairly new, and completely different than anyone has ever heard. The Ephesus church has opened its doors to women, who, at this time in history, have never been considered anything more than property of their father or husband. Spiritually speaking, as a young pastor with no experience leading people, this is a great deal of spiritual pressure Timothy has to face, especially with the reality that Satan and spiritual darkness has a commitment to frustrate any believer in Christ's attempt to grow deeper in their knowledge of God. Now, we can see why the Holy Spirit is prompting Paul to exhort Timothy to wage good warfare.

Now that we have this context, we can begin to see the Holy Spirit's heart in 1 Timothy 2:11-12. The point of view is not about Man-male's or Man-female's superiority or inferiority to one another, nor about man's authority or woman's lack of ability. The point of view of this passage is, the establishment of the decent, orderly way of the Self-Existing, Eternal Creator being recognized and honored in a congregational setting, so the power in His Word can minister to the hearts of His people, Man-male and Man-female, without interruption or distraction.

The Holy Spirit through Paul's point was not that women shouldn't speak in church, but women should not usurp the authority (Divine Order – Romans 13:1...added by author) of Yehovah Elohim like Eve did in the Garden of Eden. Paul was led by the Holy Spirit to establish this godly wisdom for this specific congregation where Timothy pastored, because gentile women fundamentally did not know the decent, orderly way of the LORD, being new converts; again, they were thought of as property of their father or their husband, they were accustomed to being shut up at home, not being allowed into public society, which included worship at synagogues or other designated locations.

Paul was led by the Holy Spirit to pioneer born-again, Jewish and Gentile women believers in Christ, having one hundred percent equivalent participation in all the purposes and plans of God in the churches he was led by the Spirit of God to begin. This was extremely radical, but extremely biblical in the time of Paul's ministry. With this new-found freedom in congregational worship services, these newly born-again women would blurt out questions or opinions while the Word of God was being taught. Feeling empowered, but still having unrenewed, carnal minds, these outbursts would incite men's flesh, possibly other women too, in the congregation to do the same, creating disruption, confusion and distraction. (Men were not used to women having such liberty.)

Looking at the Koine Greek language that the New Testament was written in, this perspective is further clarified. The Holy Spirit through Apostle Paul, with his apostolic authority, and for the purpose of making sure the teaching of the true Gospel has free course, gave commandment for woman to be silent twice between verse 11 and verse 12. The Koine Greek word for silent in verses 11 and 12 means desistance from bustle - to be very quick in motion, often or usually with the sense of noise or agitation - or language – Human speech; the expression of ideas by words.

In other words, the Holy Spirit, through Paul, was saying to the women in the congregation, do not be anxious or ambitious to share or teach what you know to the point of being a disruption. Be content and calmly learn what is being taught to you by the Holy Spirit. The Koine Greek word for subjection in verse 11 means obedience, and the Koine Greek word for usurp authority means one who acts on his (or her...added by author) own authority. Putting these two thoughts together, the Holy Spirit was commanding the Ephesus congregation,

especially the women, to not seek to do things their way when they came together, or period; but, to seek the way of the LORD instead. This does not mean that women could not pray, speak, or teach in congregational worship. There was a set order by which men and women were to respect when it came to flowing with the Holy Spirit in congregational worship to Yehovah.

Doing these things within the congregational worship at Ephesus prevented satan and spiritual darkness from stealing the Word and deceiving the people, Man-male or Man-female, like he was able to do with Eve and Adam in the beginning. Doing this also allowed Man-male, and especially Man-female believers in Christ, to flourish and excel in their personal and corporate relationships with the Self-Existent, Eternal One, as well as in their individual giftings and the corporate Gifts of the Spirit. Flourishing and excelling in our personal and corporate relationship with Yehovah and our individual giftings, and corporate gifts of the Spirit always was and always will be the will of the LORD for His Church. Amen. (Rom.12:4-8, 1Cor.12:28, Ephesians 4:11-16)

Terry D. Houston II
Terry Houston Ministries



Terry D. Houston II has been in the ministry 24 years. Five and a half of those years he and his wife planted and pastored their own church. In 2016, the Holy Spirit led them to stop pastoring that church and sent them out with this commission: "Help Me prepare My people for the return of My Son...they must be able to hear My voice, follow My Spirit and My glory will manifest." This commission reminded them of a verse in St. John 1:14, "...the Word was made flesh... full of grace and truth." So now this is their mission. They call it their MADE Mission. They're aiming to work with the LORD to help His people, in the US and around the world, to prepare for the return of His Son, by Planting MADE Churches, Building MADE School and Raising up MADE Partners.



By Budd Rodgers

The Shepherd's Voice

DEBORAHS ARISE!!

Hold on to your hats folks!! This issue is going to BLESS you, ENCOURAGE you and may even irritate you.....

Why???

Well, let me explain; in this issue we are focusing on Women in Ministry! Just the phrase itself is enough to cause heartburn to a lot of religious people.

Let me tell you that FULLNESS MAGAZINE ONLINE does not seek to be controversial. FULLNESS seeks to hear what HOLY SPIRIT says to write about. This topic was chosen early last fall to come out in the May issue, which as you all know is the month we celebrate motherhood, probably the greatest ministry a woman could ever have either naturally or spiritually. The purpose of this magazine is to promote the fullness of God in all that we do, that includes women doing the work of the ministry.

Let me remind you that the basic meaning of the word for "ministry" is to serve. All of us have been given the example by Jesus to serve one another. I think we would be hard pressed to say anyone has an issue with serving, but some in the faith have put limits on "serving". Some say if you are a male, you can serve as a preacher or a teacher or an apostle or an evangelist; however, if you are a woman, you shouldn't do those things because the apostle Paul says women should remain silent in the church.

From what I see, the controversy over this issue is in the church world; honestly, the "world" could not care less. The world has no issue with women in authority or holding offices of authority. In fact, the world we live in today can't even define what a woman is; so, I certainly don't care what the world thinks. When I read the Gospels or the book of Revelation, I never see one time where Jesus was afraid to make a controversial statement. His intent was, and is today, not controversy but TRUTH!

Truth is controversial. Most people don't think there is an absolute truth. If you tell someone who is not a Christian that you believe the Bible is the truth of God, you probably will be challenged in your belief. The latest polls I have seen, (in 2021, by the Christian research group

Barna) show that seven in ten Americans claim a view that regards scripture as the word of God (71%). Over half of American adults (55%) hold what is known to be a "high" view of scripture, which deems the Bible without error.

Of course, that number goes down when the secular public is interviewed here in America. According to a new Gallup survey, a record-low 20% of Americans believe the Bible is the literal word of God. This is down from 24% when the same question was asked in 2017 and half of what it was at its 1980 and 1984 high points.

I grew up in a church denomination that fought many years about women "ministers". The Methodists don't seem to have that issue; but then, they have other controversies. What I am saying is there are no perfect churches, and we really should be focusing on one thing and that is "growing up in Christ".

Why should we be spending our time arguing about the validity of women in ministry? Well for one reason, we need to speak truth regarding any subject. When we read the Bible, we have all kinds of examples of women in ministry and women in leadership roles. I am not advocating that the men should take a sabbatical and let the women do all the ministering, but I do believe that God created woman to be by the side of man and HE called them both Adam. (Genesis 5:2 KJV)

My wife and I oversee an outreach ministry in our church for young adults. In the meeting this past month, there were two women who had shirts on that had written on them, DEBORAHS ARISE. These two women had participated in a conference with this ministry out of Florida called DEBORAHS ARISE. I checked them out on the internet. Hey, you should too, you will be blessed. But, this is what I am talking about, when we read about Deborah, a prophetess who was appointed judge of the Lord in the book over the Israelites (Judges 4-5).

We do not have the space in this column to discuss all the examples of women in ministry of the Bible. There are several great articles in this issue, that I believe you will learn from and be inspired by. However, what I want to leave with you in this article is this. For several weeks now, I have heard the Lord say, I created them, "male and

female"...I am convinced from the Word of God that He created only two genders. Each gender has a purpose, and He created them to come together to represent His presence on the earth. He gave them authority over all the other creatures. His attributes are displayed in the strengths of both men and women. I understand that some women are not as feminine as others, and some men are not as masculine as others. Hey, I'm okay with that. WE are who WE are, but we definitely need to know that the purpose of God should work through both men and women. How many times has the Lord through the Holy Spirit ministered to you in a very gentle nurturing way; I mean to the point that you thought your momma was caressing your forehead. He (Holy Spirit) was really, really gentle like a mother's touch. Maybe other times, Holy Spirit was giving you some direct commands like your father did when he was giving you your chore list to be done by a certain time frame etc. I think what I am saying is this: God our Father is also our mother in the sense that He shows us a total love, and He may demonstrate that in different ways to get our responses. Don't get so tied up with the gender use in the Bible that you can't receive from God. You and I are created in His image; we have His nature in us. Some days we may need to be softer and emotionally in touch with life. Some days, we need to be firmer in faith and deny the ruling of our emotions.

1 Peter 3:7 (The Passion Translation) says: "Husbands, you in turn must treat your wives with tenderness, viewing them as feminine partners who deserve to be honored, for they are co-heirs with you of the 'divine grace of life,' so that nothing will hinder your prayers."

If you study this scripture with other translations including the Amplified Version, you will see that Peter is not referring to a spiritually weaker vessel. In fact, the word vessel is the Aramaic word "mana" from the Phoenician term "clothing" and is associated with the outrigging of a ship like the sails, rudder, and anchor giving an indication that a woman can help guide her marriage keeping it on course and moving, just as God created them to be co-heirs (equals in the faith) in Genesis.

Enjoy this issue. Pray for all in ministry, including women in ministry! Until next time! BLESSINGS TO YOU ALL!

BR



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He and his wife Susie are Elders and Young Adult Pastors at Fullness in Christ Church in Fort Worth, Texas.

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SONS AND DAUGHTERS

OF FULLNESS

DECLARING THE TRUTH



by Jennifer Peikert

God is pouring out His Spirit on ALL flesh. This is going to, in a lot of ways, look different to us. God wants us to be open to and embrace the NEW things HE is going to do, some of which have already started.

That being said, I felt led to write about mindsets. I believe God is wanting to shake our mindsets to prepare us for what He is doing and will be doing. He wants to shake us loose from anything that would stop us from walking in the new. He is bringing a shaking to the nations, to the church and to the body of Christ that will forever change us.

Haggai 2:6-9 (NIV)

“This is what the Lord Almighty says: ‘In a little while I will once more shake the heavens and the earth, the sea and the dry land. I will shake all nations, and what is desired by all nations will come, and I will fill this house with glory,’ says the Lord Almighty. ‘The silver is mine and the gold is mine,’ declares the Lord Almighty. The glory of this present house will be greater than the glory of the former house,’ says the Lord Almighty. ‘And in this place I will grant peace.’ declares the Lord Almighty. Heaven is the realm of God.”

Let’s look at a couple of words in the above scriptures and the Hebrew definition of them:

Fill– To be fulfilled, to unite together, to be filled up

Glory– glory, honor, splendor and wealth

God said He will fill (to be filled up, fulfilled and united) this house with His glory (glory, honor, splendor and wealth). He is saying to us He is going to shake the nations, shake the heavens and the earth, shake the church and shake us, and He will fill us. I am so ready!!!

Acts 16:25-26 (NLT)

“Around midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the other prisoners were listening. Suddenly, there was a massive earthquake, and the prison was shaken to its foundations. All the doors immediately flew open, and the chains of every prisoner fell off.”

Have you ever thought about mindset? What does it mean to have a mindset? What does it mean to have our minds set? Let’s look at the term mindset and what it means.

The definition of mindset is “the ideas of attitudes with which a person approaches a situation; habits of mind formed by previous experience; a fixed mental attitude.”

A mindSET does not allow in anything NEW. To have our mind set, or to have a mindset, is to have our minds, our habits and the way we approach things formed by previous experiences. God is wanting to shake our mindsets to free us from the old ways and the old ways of thinking. He wants to free us and shake us free from the way we have always approached things, the way we have always done things, and even the way we have seen the way He wants to move in our midst.

Isaiah 43:19 (NKJV)

“Behold, I will do a new thing, now it shall spring forth; shall you not know it? I will even make a road in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. He is doing something new and He wants to shake us, shake our mindsets, shake our nation and shake the churches so that we will be open, receive and flow with the new things He wants to do. It will look, feel and be different than anything we have ever experienced with Him before.”

Romans 8:5 (NKJV)

“For those who love according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.”

The things of the Spirit are whatever God says and wants to do. What is your mind set on? Our flesh would want to stay in the old way of doing things, the way it has always been and in what is comfortable.

But God is saying to you and me, “I am in the NEW. I am shaking you free from the old thinking, the way it has always been because it is time for you to trust more and get comfortable being uncomfortable. I will be stretching you in your next season. There is always growth in the stretching, and it is time for you to grow with Me. I have so much more for you and for you to do with Me. It is

going to take you submitting to My shaking. New and fresh revelation will be coming to you from the Throne Room!! New and fresh revelation will be coming from the pulpit. Just because you haven't heard it or experienced it before doesn't mean it isn't TRUTH!! You will know the TRUTH when you hear it. I am giving you 'ears to hear what I am saying' get ready, I AM doing this!!!!"

I want to share this next scripture from two different versions.

Philippians 2:5 (NKJV)

"Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 2:5 (TPT)

"And consider the example that Jesus, the Anointed One, has set before us. Let this mindset become your motivation."

Jesus only did what He saw His Father doing.

I John 4:17 (NKJV)

"Love has been perfected among us in this; that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, so are we in this world."

Jesus went about doing His Father's business, whatever that was and whatever that looked like, He did it. He is asking us and wanting us to do the same. His mindset needs to become ours, His example needs to become our motivation. I would like to say right here: What we focus on, develops. We need to stop focusing on the past. We need to stop focusing on how our church services have always been. We need to stop focusing on how God has moved before and look at what He wants to do NOW! What He is saying NOW!! Fresh and new revelation is coming from the Throne Room to you and from the pulpits.

God is shaking you loose from what has held you back. He is shaking you loose from the old, He is breaking us free from the patterns and methods. Glory to God! His glory will fill your house. Freedom will come. Let Him shake you.

I personally have been shaken to the core by God. I have been stretched to what I thought was as far as I could be stretched. But, God has always stretched me more and more. Every time I am shaken or stretched, I grow and increase with Him.

There has always been growth, and I have become so much stronger. I truly ridiculously believe God. He has NEVER let me down or disappointed me. He has always amazed me through the shaking and the stretching. And OH have I been uncomfortable. But He has ALWAYS done amazing things. My husband and I have been stretched beyond what we ever thought we could handle. God has always done more than we can ask, think or imagine. We have learned to trust and believe Him ridiculously. There is nothing our Daddy God can't do.

God wants to shake your mindset, will you let Him? He wants to take you and shake you free from how you have always done things. He wants to shake you free from how you have always approached things. Will you let Him? Here is an eye opener for some:

He wants to shake you free from YOURSELF!!! This shaking of our mindsets is in preparation for what He wants to do in our lives, for us and through us.

There are new places God wants to take you, in order to go there you have to walk out of the past and out of your old mindsets. You have to leave it all behind and embrace the NEW. **The new will not fit into the old, nor will the old fit into the new.**

Mark 2:21-22 (NKJV)

"No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; or else the new piece pulls away from the old, and the tear is made worse. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine bursts the wineskins, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But the new wine must be put into the new wineskins."

God is all about progression. He wants to take you places you have never been. But if you and I are so set on how things have always been or the things we are comfortable with, then that is where we will stay stuck. We will not allow God to move us forward to where He wants us to go. We must change our mindset and allow God to move us to the next level to where He wants us to move. What worked yesterday will not work today.

God is asking us to step out of the old and to step out of our old mindsets and into the new, His new!!! Let's do this together with God. Let us all allow Him to shake us, shake us loose from old mindsets, old thinking and the old way.

Let's embrace what God is doing. Let's embrace the shaking, let's embrace the new, and move with God into the greatest adventure of our lives with Him. Let Him rattle and shake the cage of old mindsets that have kept us in and free us from them so that we can move forward with Him. It is time to move forward with Him. Say "YES" to this shaking. You will not be disappointed. He will never disappoint us. He will never ask you to do something that He will not do through you. But, He will ask you to do things that will stretch you. He will ask you to do things that will take you out of your comfort zone. That is why He wants to shake your mindset. He wants to take you out of how it has always been and the way you have always done things with Him, because, you were born for such a time as this. He is pouring His Spirit on ALL flesh.

He wants you in the middle of this outpouring, moving with Him. He wants you to perceive the new thing and be ready to move with Him. We must let Him take us out of our old mindSETS and walk us into the new with Him. He is with us. He will never leave us. He will do what He says He will do.

"You can be who He says you can be. You can do what

He says you can do. You can have what He says you can have." A vital key to this is believing and trusting Him. As you get shaken out of the old mindsets and go with your Daddy God to do ALL He asks you do to remember this:

Joshua 1:9 (NKJV)

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Deuteronomy 31:8 (NKJV)

"And the Lord, He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you; He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear or be dismayed."

John 14:12 (NKJV)

"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to My Father."

He is with us wherever we go. It is time we trust Him even more and get out of old mindsets and walk into the new. God is preparing you and me for the greatest outpouring we have ever seen or experienced. Let Him shake you. Let Him shake you free of old mindsets and shake you out of old wineskins and get you ready for His outpouring. Get comfortable being uncomfortable. The time is NOW!

Acts 2:17 (NLT)

"In the last days' God say, 'I will pour out My Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams.'"

Jennifer Peikert is a prophet and minister who travels with her husband Jay all over the world preaching the Gospel, healing the sick, being a prophetic voice to the nations and seeing signs, wonders and miracles everywhere they go. They have ministered in Japan, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Mexico, Honduras, Cuba and different places in the U.S.A.



Jennifer is also an accomplished author. She has written 4 books with one translated in Spanish.

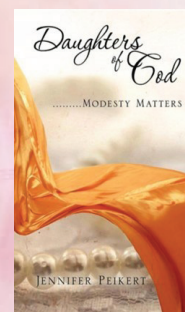
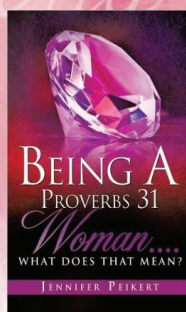
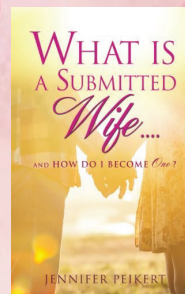
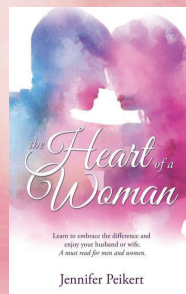
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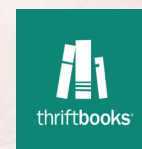
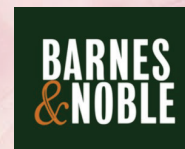
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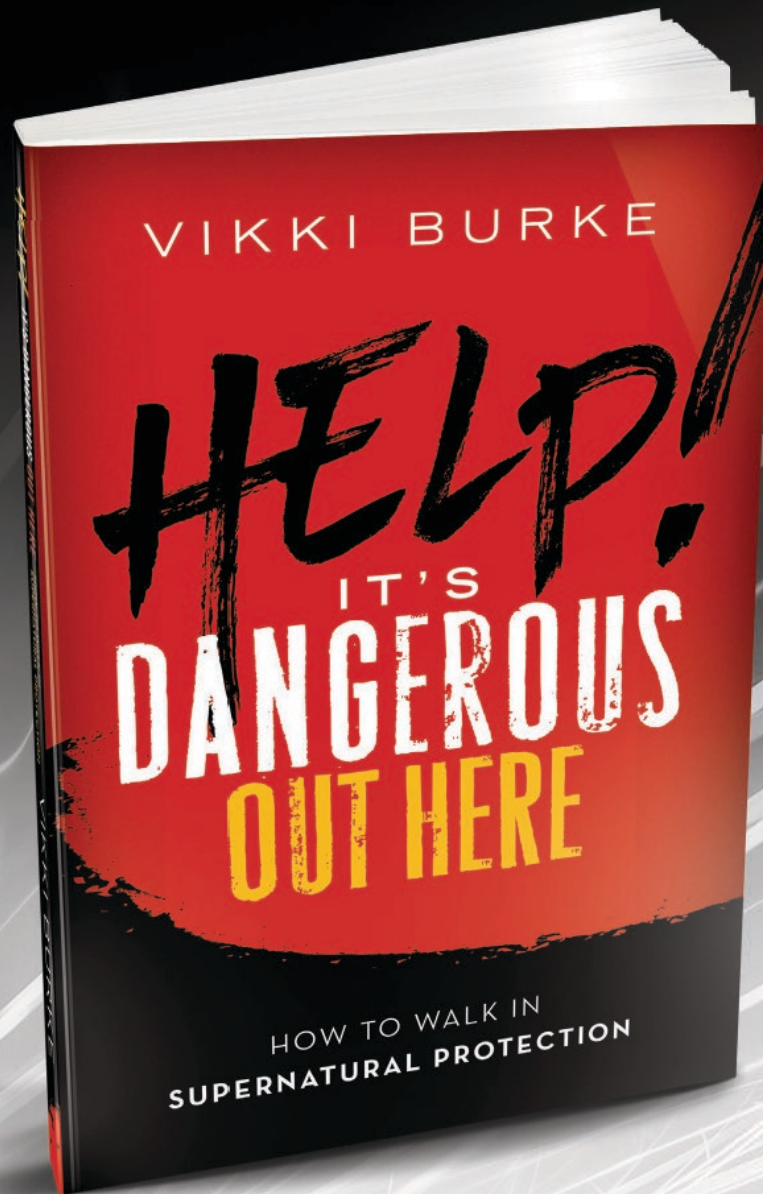
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to give a gift of blessing to the poorest of the poor.

You will be blessed.

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the women with
the good news
are a mighty
army.”

- Psalm 68:11