

Homework for the week of April 8th (to be completed by April 15th)

Read the excerpt from Dr. Tom Schreiner's essay entitled, "Another Complementarian Perspective." This essay comes from a book in the Zondervan "Counterpoints" series in which authors with different views on a contested issue write and respond to one another. This particular book is called "Two Views on Women in Ministry" (even though it technically contains four views – two complementarian and two egalitarian). Tom Schreiner writes one of the complementarian views.

Dr. Schreiner is writing from the conservative complementarian perspective that the pastoral office is restricted to men. However, in his essay he tries to emphasize the dignity and significance of women and the many ways they participated in ministry in the New Testament.

1. Pick two of the examples of women in the Bible that Schreiner gives in his essay. Look their stories up in the Bible and read them in context. What does each woman's story teach you about the dignity, value, and /or contribution of women?

2. Do you think that in our church women have the ability to do at least everything that women did in the Bible? To put it another way, were there any examples Schreiner gave of activities women did in Bible times that our current church practice would not allow?

3. If you are a woman, do you feel valued, respected, and empowered to use your gifts in our church? If not, how can the men of the church, especially the elders, do better?