

# *From the Elders*

## **JANUARY SCHEDULE**

GLENWOOD CHURCH OF CHRIST / JANUARY 2017

As we embark upon the new year, we also near the end of our congregational study of the public role of women in the church. We want to thank you all for your earnest prayers for this important and sometimes difficult conversation, and we invite you to participate in the multiple opportunities for learning and discussion in the first two months of 2017.

Beginning on January 8, we will welcome four guest speakers to Glenwood—one on each Sunday—who will both teach a combined adult class and also preach for us. On January 8, John Mark Hicks from Lipscomb University will speak to us about the wide continuum of thought regarding the role of women in the church from patriarchalism to feminism. On January 15, Mark Hamilton from ACU will discuss the many and varied roles of women in the Old Testament. On January 22, John York from Lipscomb University will speak on the topic of Jesus' interaction with women in the Gospels. On January 29, James Thompson from ACU will finish out our study by addressing the topic of women in Paul's letters. Like all other sessions of our congregational study, each of these lessons will center on in-depth biblical study. Unlike our other sessions, each of the January sessions will be followed by a time dedicated for conversation and discussion. On each Sunday afternoon, beginning January 8, and each Wednesday evening, beginning January 11, the Glenwood shepherds will lead a time of discussion, guided by a handout created by each presenter. We encourage everyone to attend these times of teaching and discussion.

On a pastoral note, we recognize this season of study has been welcomed by some and dreaded by others. We also recognize that some church families do not have the relational capacity to discuss a topic like this one and remain committed to truth and unity. We commend you for your patience, prayer, and commitment to each other. We continue to believe God will bring us through this thorough study as a stronger and

more unified family. As we start this new year together, our prayer remains that God will use this season and all others in the future to shape us into a family better equipped to graciously help a fallen world stand up again.

**SUNDAYS** (beginning January 8):

9:00 a.m. Combined Class

10:00 a.m. Worship

1:30 p.m. Discussion Groups

**WEDNESDAYS** (beginning January 11):

6:30 p.m. Discussion Groups

January 8: "From Patriarchalism to Feminism: Various Views of Women's Roles in the Church," John Mark Hicks

January 15: "Women and the Old Testament," Mark Hamilton

January 22: "Jesus and Women in the Gospels," John York

January 29: "Women's Roles and Paul's Letters," James Thompson

Discussion groups will be offered Sunday afternoons and Wednesday evenings following each speaker. Discussions will be based on questions provided by the speakers. Childcare available; sign up in the foyer beginning Sunday, January 1.

For details and additional resources, including videos of past presentations, visit: [glenwoodchurch.com/resources/women-in-the-church](http://glenwoodchurch.com/resources/women-in-the-church)