LifeBridge BAPTIST CHURCH

July 25, 2021
Worship Service
Pastor Chris Regas
WeAreLifeBridge.com

PHILIPPIANS: Joy in the Journey

Lesson Twenty-Seven • Philippians 1:1; 2:25-30; 4:2-3

Partners Together

Euodia and Syntyche

Two women who seemingly cannot escape **CONTROVERSY**.

The Debate Over the Role of Women & Men in Ministry

Egalitarians: All believers—without regard to gender, ethnicity, or class—must exercise their God-given gifts with equal authority and equal responsibility in church, home, and world.

Complementarians: Men and women are equal in value but have different roles in the home and the church. While both are gifted for service in the church, the office and function of pastors are limited to qualified men according to Scripture.

Why This Message Now?

- Radical **CONTROVERSY** in our culture and churches.
- Doctrinal **STUDY** by our Leadership Council.
- Practical **OPPORTUNITY** in this series.

What Are the Goals for This Message?

1) **CELEBRATE** 2. **CLARIFY** 3. **CHALLENGE**

As Men & Women in Christ Let's Celebrate

1. The PRESENCE of Women & Men in the Church.

Acts 16:13-15; 17:1-4, 10-12

2. The PEACE Between Women & Men in the Church.

Promoting Peace Between Women & Men

➤ **TREAT** one another as brothers & sisters in God's family.
1 Timothy 5:1-2; Titus 2:1-8

➤ **FORGIVE** one another just as God in Christ forgives you.
Ephesians 4:32

Protecting Peace Between Women & Men

➤ Men are just as likely to cause **DISUNITY** as women.

➤ Men and women are to live in **HARMONY** in the Lord.

3. The PATTERN for Women & Men in the Church.

Two Problems with Egalitarian Claims

➤ Paul **NEVER** says any of these things.

➤ Paul says the **SAME** thing about the entire church. *Philippians 1:27*

The Ministry Pattern by God's Design and for Our Good

Only qualified men are appointed to be **SERVANT LEADERS**
as *pastors*. *1Timothy 3:1-7; Titus 1:5-9*

Qualified men & women/wives(?) are appointed to be **LEADING SERVANTS**
as *deacons*. *1Timothy 3:8-16*

4. The PARTNERSHIP with Women & Men in the Church.

Two Problems with Egalitarian Claims

➤ **ALL** God's people are to be "*fellow workers.*"

➤ **SOME** *"fellow workers"* are missionaries or sent to support missions.
3John 8; Philippians 2:25-30

"Women have always been on the cutting edge of the Church's advance. It is calculated that two-thirds of the modern mission force are women. This has been the case since the modern era of Protestant missions began with the Moravians. Again, one wonders where missions would be today if it were not for the selfless service of women." - Marvin J. Newell, D.Miss

Let's Partner Together as Women & Men in the Church

*While Egalitarians **read too much** into Paul's praise of these two women, Complementarians often **see too little** in them and other women in the NT. Nevertheless, there is joy in **being** what the Creator has created us to **be** and in **doing** what Christ has commanded us to **do**!*

- ***Celebrate*** God's design for men and women in Christ who complement and complete one another in the home and in the church.
- ***Commit*** as a church to remain true to Christ's pattern for His church by God's grace, so we can advance the gospel in the Spirit's power.