

# Women in the Church - 2

**TEXT: Rom. 16:1-2**

## **INTRODUCTION:**

- A. LIMITATIONS PLACED ON WOMEN IN THE ASSEMBLY.
1. Because of what is said in **1 Cor. 14:34-37** and in **1 Tim. 2:11-12**.
  2. In spite of such limitations, **the church benefits greatly by the work of many women**
- B. **Romans 16**. IN THE CHURCH AT ROME, FOR EXAMPLE:
1. **Phoebe (vs. 1-2)**.                      3. **Mary (vs. 6)**.
  2. **Priscilla (vs. 3-4)**.
- C. HOW CAN THAT BE IF WOMEN ARE SO LIMITED IN THE ASSEMBLY?
1. There is much work outside the assembly that must be done, if a church is to grow.
  2. Women are often in a position to provide much of this needed work!
- D. **WHAT CAN WOMEN DO?**
1. How can they contribute to the success of the local church?
  2. Let's answer such questions in the light of the work of a local church.

## **I. A WOMAN'S CONTRIBUTION IN BENEVOLENCE.**

- A. BENEVOLENCE IS AN IMPORTANT WORK...
1. It is a mark of pure and undefiled religion (**Jas. 1:27**).
  2. Serving our brother is a service rendered to the Lord Himself (**Matt. 25:34-40**).
  3. All Christians, women & men, are to be involved in this work (**1 John 3:17-18**).
- B. WOMEN ARE WELL-SUITED FOR BENEVOLENCE...
1. They bring a grace of which men are normally not capable.
    - a. The unique attributes of femininity lend themselves well to this work.
    - b. E.g., mercy and compassion are almost second-nature to women (**Isa. 49:15**).
    - c. **Rom. 12:6-8**. And mercy is one of the gifts the Lord has given to His church.
  2. They often possess skills through which benevolence can be rendered
    - a. E.g., making clothes, as Dorcas did for needy widows (**Acts 9:36-39**).
    - b. E.g., cooking, baby-sitting, ministering to the sick, extending hospitality, etc.
 

Indeed, women who later "enrolled" were to be known or "well-reported" for the good works done in this area (**1 Tim. 5:9-10**).
  3. Any work that a woman does in the area of benevolence is a powerful contribution to the work and reputation of a local church!

## **II. A WOMAN'S CONTRIBUTION IN EDIFICATION.**

- A. EDIFICATION IS AN ESSENTIAL WORK...
1. It involves building up the body through the work of **every member** (**Eph. 4:15-16**).
  2. "Comfort each other and edify one another" – (**1 Thess. 5:11**).
- B. WOMEN CAN DO MUCH TO EDIFY THE CHURCH...
1. **Through formal teaching** of others:
    - a. Grandmothers and mothers, Lois and Eunice (**2 Tim. 1:5; 3:14-15**).
    - b. Older women can and should teach younger women (**Titus 2:3-5**).

- c. **Especially where people don't have the benefit of godly mothers and grandmothers, in which Christian women can be helpful and adopting.**
2. **Through informal words of encouragement (Heb. 10:24).**
3. Where women are involved in the work of edification, their contribution to the work of the local church does not go unnoticed (**Matt. 10:42**).

### **III. A WOMAN'S CONTRIBUTION IN EVANGELISM.**

- A. EVANGELISM IS AN IMPERATIVE WORK...
  1. The "Great Commission" given to faithful (**Matt. 28:19-20; 2 Tim. 2:2**).
  2. The **Gospel** must be shared with **everyone** (**Rom. 1:16; Mark 16:15-16**).
  3. This is a work that can be done by everyone (**Acts 8:1, 4**).
- B. WOMEN CAN DO MUCH IN THE AREA OF EVANGELISM.
  1. They can help **support those who preach** the gospel.
    - a. As did Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Susanna (**Luke 8:1-3**).
    - b. Providing much needed hospitality, as did Lydia (**Acts 16:15**).
  2. They can **tell others** about Christ
    - a. The Samaritan woman (**John 4:28-31, 39-42**).
    - b. Priscilla, who with her husband...
      - 1) Provided a place for Paul to stay while at Corinth (**Acts 18:1-4**).
      - 2) Converted Apollos at Ephesus (**Acts 18:24-26**).
      - 3) Hosted a church in their home (**1 Cor. 16:19 Rom. 16:3-5**).
    - c. Even without a word, godly women can lead others to Christ, including unbelieving husbands (**1 Pet. 3:1-2**).
  3. Many souls have been saved, and churches started, through the evangelistic efforts of godly women! – Tina Snyder and Jerry Bickle.

### **CONCLUSION:**

- A. THERE IS MUCH THAT GODLY WOMEN CAN DO FOR THE CHURCH.
- B. WHAT GOES ON OUTSIDE THE ASSEMBLY IS AS IMPORTANT AS WHAT GOES ON IN THE ASSEMBLY.
- C. WHEN GODLY WOMEN ARE ACTIVE IN THE CHURCH, SOULS ARE SAVED AND THE CHURCH IS STRONGER.