

Roles of Men and Women in the Church

Laying the Foundation

1. Equality & Roles

2. Headship

- **Ephesians 5:23** For the husband is head of the wife, as also Christ is head of the church; and He is the Savior of the body.
- **1 Corinthians 11:3** But I want you to know that the head of every man is Christ, the head of woman *is* man, and the head of Christ *is* God.

Headship Defined:

- a God appointed leadership role
- to provide a safe environment in which to care for those whom God has given responsibility for
- this caring involves:
 - provision
 - safety
 - love (support, affirmation)
 - wise counsel and direction
- with a goal that they would be able to become all the God wills them to be (to flourish).
- Therefore: tyranny, violence, oppression, the use and abuse of others for selfish ends...
 - is a violation, and abuse of the God given responsibility
 - is the opposite of what biblical Headship is meant to be.

Headship Denied:

- without a properly functioning Godly leadership structure...it inevitably leads to:
 - competition over competing goals, wants, desires, agendas
 - can lead to breakdown of group or worse, dominance and oppression of the strongest, most aggressive...negating genuine flourishing and equal flourishing.
 - Rather than being a destroyer of flourishing and equality...Headship is a preserver of flourishing and equality... injustice reigns...thus God has appointed these authority structures
- **Romans 13:1-2** Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.