

**PCC**

11.8.20

**1. What was the best part of your week? Worst part?**

**2. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon? Was there anything particularly helpful, challenging, or confusing?**

**3. Read 1 Corinthians 11:1 — Why might it be important to remember this verse before we talk about our roles as men and women? What sorts of things did Paul do that we ought to imitate? What aspects of Christ's nature are the hardest for you to imitate?**

- The primary focus of both men and women should equally be to imitate and become more and more like Jesus.
- Our goal is not to belittle women or to exalt men. Our goal as Christians is to model for others the humility, respect, love, and mercy that Christ modeled for us. It may look different from male to female, even person to person, but the goal is always to model Christ-likeness.
- Christ's nature that we should imitate might include humility, submission, forgiveness, compassion, anger, etc

**4. Read 1 Timothy 2:8-15 — What elements of this passage are confusing or challenging to you? How would you summarize Paul's main points in your own words? How should Paul's instructions about women teaching and leading in the church be applied in the twenty-first century? How would you support this view?**

- Paul's exhortation for women was for them to not be distracting in their manner of attire when attending and leading in the church. Paul gives similar instruction to men in 1 Cor. 11:7.
- Paul's command for women to learn quietly was a call for humility in learning, as women in the church of Ephesus made a habit out of exclaiming their disagreements and opinions while demeaning the male leaders of the church.
- There is much debate over Paul's meaning in v. 12, and various interpretations can be considered a second tier issue for the church. However, it is clear that Paul is asserting that women should not view themselves as being inherently better or worthy of more value than men.

**5. Read Hebrews 13:7-17 — According to this passage, how is the role of a pastor different from other leadership roles in the local church? Why do you think people struggle with submitting to authority within the church? In what ways do you struggle with submission to authority?**

- The author of Hebrews addresses seven specific ways in which Christians should revere church leaders. (1) Christians should observe the lives of their leaders and imitate their faith. (2) Christians should remember that Christ is always the same and judge every teaching according to the gospel. (3) Christians should recognize their church may not be appreciated by the world because the Christian community is gathered to worship their Lord, whom the world despises. (4) Christians should continually offer their own sacrifice of praise in appreciation for the sacrifice of Christ by confessing His name. (5) The church should be active in doing good works and sharing with one another. (6) Christians should obey their leaders and submit to them, because they are accountable to God for caring for Christian souls. (7) Christians should pray for their leaders to have clear consciences, conducting themselves with honor in everything.
- v. 17 tells us that pastoral leaders will have to give an account before God.

**6. We rob our soul when we despise our role — What role has God given you that's tempting for you to despise? What's one thing you can do this week to step into the role that God has called you to?**

**7. Spend some time praying for and encouraging one another.**