



Growth Group Discussion Guide

"Growing Upward, Inward, Outward, and Forward"

For the Week of May 29, 2016



1 Corinthians 11:2-16

I praise you for remembering me in everything and for holding to the teachings, just as I passed them on to you.

3 Now I want you to realize that the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God. 4 Every man who prays or prophesies with his head covered dishonors his head. 5 And every woman who prays or prophesies with her head uncovered dishonors her head—it is just as though her head were shaved. 6 If a woman does not cover her head, she should have her hair cut off; and if it is a disgrace for a woman to have her hair cut or shaved off, she should cover her head. 7 A man ought not to cover his head, since he is the image and glory of God; but the woman is the glory of man. 8 For man did not come from woman, but woman from man; 9 neither was man created for woman, but woman for man. 10 For this reason, and because of the angels, the woman ought to have a sign of authority on her head.

11 In the Lord, however, woman is not independent of man, nor is man independent of woman. 12 For as woman came from man, so also man is born of woman. But everything comes from God. 13 Judge for yourselves: Is it proper for a woman to pray to God with her head uncovered? 14 Does not the very nature of things teach you that if a man has long hair, it is a disgrace to him, 15 but that if a woman has long hair, it is her glory? For long hair is given to her as a covering. 16 If anyone wants to be contentious about this, we have no other practice—nor do the churches of God.

WELCOME – Getting to Know Each Other Better

- Spend some time catching up on each other's past week and summer plans.

WORD - Applying Scripture to Our Lives

1. What is something that you felt God spoke to you about this week – either through your daily quiet time, this week's Scripture passage, or the sermon?
2. How have you experienced being under a good authority figure? What were the benefits? What did you like about their leadership?
3. How have you experienced being under a bad authority figure? What made it a bad experience? What did you like least about their leadership?
4. Why happens when there is no leadership?
5. What causes us to squirm when we read that "the head of woman is man?"
6. Why do you think the phrase "the head of woman is man" is sandwiched between the phrases, "the head of every man is Christ" and "the head of Christ is God?"
7. Due to the positioning of those three phrases, do you think this principle was cultural (just for the Corinthians) or universal (for all succeeding generations)?

8. What reasons did Paul give regarding why women in the Corinthians church were supposed to wear head coverings?
9. How do those explanations apply to us today as we do not live in a culture where head coverings are the norm?
10. Based on the example of God the Father and Jesus, what are the responsibilities or attitudes a husband must have toward his wife in order to be obedient to the Lord?
11. Within Christianity and the church what was Paul's message for men and women (according to verses 11-12)?
12. How does the idea of authority and submission impact God's glory for those watching the Christian community?
13. Are there any changes in attitude or behavior you need to make based on this teaching?

WITNESS - Prayer Concerns from my Growth Group:

- Who has God placed in your life who does not know Christ?
- How can we pray for your spiritual growth tonight?
- What other prayer concerns do you have?