1 Corinthians 11:2-16 (November 6, 2022) #3 Men & Women

NOTE: This is the third of four lessons focusing on men & women in the midst of the 1 Corinthians Study.

OPENING QUESTION:

SERMON DISCUSSION: How were you impacted by the sermon? What new thoughts or lessons did you discover? In what ways did you find yourself challenged and/or encouraged?

BIBLE PASSAGE STUDY QUESTIONS: READ 1 Corinthians 11:2-16

1. From 1 Corinthians 11:3, what are the three headships Paul wants the Corinthian believers to understand? Discuss the partnership between Christ and God (Ephesians 1:22) and how is this an example for husbands and wives to follow.

2. **NOTE REGARDING HEAD COVERING:** In first-century Corinth, it was customary for Roman men of high social standing during pagan religious ceremonies to pull their togas over their heads as an act of piety when worshiping pagan gods. Also in that culture, a woman's covering of her head indicated that she was married and symbolized her modesty, chastity, and submission to her husband. A married woman who uncovered her head in public brought shame to her husband. A woman's uncovered head could be a sign of sexual availability and misconduct. Shaven or short hair on women during this time was considered shameful and long hair was considered to be a woman's "glory".

Why did the Corinthian believers' conduct regarding head coverings matter? What did their behavior reveal about their hearts and witness?

3. Note the themes of honor/glory versus dishonor/disgrace. How is this passage a continuance of Paul's previous exhortation in 1 Corinthians 10:31-33?
4. Discuss what you find about the relationship and interdependence between men and women within the framework of creation in Genesis 2:20b-24 and 1 Corinthians 11:7-12. How should this impact us presently?
5. Why do you think Paul mentions angels in (1 Corinthians 4:9, 11:10; 1 Timothy 5:21; Hebrews 13:2)?
6. How is it evident (1 Corinthians 11:4-5, 13) that both men and women participated in public worship in the early church? How do you see your church body including both men and women in worship services?