

## **"Understanding the Complementarian Position:**

*Considering Implications and Exploring Practices in the Home and the Local Church"*

### **Bibliographies**

Good resources are invaluable for leaders. We all live with time parameters, which means we are unable to know all that would be good and important to read on a topic, much less the best of those resources.

This is one of the benefits of bibliographies. Annotated bibliographies are even more helpful in that you can get a pretty good sense of a resource through the brief annotation. Of course the books and the annotations will be based on the assessment of the annotator. Though this is important to know, it does not decrease the usefulness of the list.

As we have done in the past, we are providing a bibliography on this topic. The EFCA's denominational position on ordination is complementarian, i.e. ordination is reserved for men. As we note in the theme of this Conference, it is important that we "understand," "consider" and "explore" the theology and practice of this position. But it is also important to know and understand the best arguments supporting the egalitarian position. For this reason, I requested bibliographies from the two ministries representing these two positions: The Council on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood (CBMW, complementarian) and Christians for Biblical Equality (CBE, egalitarian).

We include an annotated bibliography from Denny Burk, the editor of the *Journal of Biblical Manhood and Womanhood*, the journal of CBMW. This ministry promotes, defends and provides resources to support the complementarian position.

We also include a bibliography from Mimi Haddad, President of CBE. This ministry promotes, defends and provides resources to support the egalitarian position.

We trust these bibliographies will enable you to grow in your understanding of the complementarian position, through understanding both positions. We are also hopeful that you will take seriously and work diligently towards the consideration and the exploration of the complementarian position.

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**The Council on Biblical Manhood and Womanhood (CBMW)  
Annotated Bibliography Compiled by Denny Burk  
Editor of the Journal of Biblical Manhood and Womanhood  
CBMW Website: <http://www.cbmw.org/>**

**John Piper and Wayne Grudem (eds.), *Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood: A Response to Evangelical Feminism* (Wheaton: Crossway, 1991)**

This book is the first book you should read if you are trying to understand the complementarian position. It has chapters setting forth exegesis of all the disputed texts. There are also a variety of chapters on the theological and practical issues at stake. This is the first book that I would recommend.

**Andreas Köstenberger, *God, Marriage, and Family: Rebuilding the Biblical Foundation*, 2nd ed. (Wheaton: Crossway, 2010)**

This is the most comprehensive, complementarian treatment on marriage and family on the market today. It also includes chapters on homosexuality, divorce, and qualifications for church leadership. It is thoroughly exegetical and well-researched.

**Andreas Köstenberger and Thomas Schreiner (eds.), *Women in the Church: An Analysis and Application of 1 Timothy 2:9-15*, 2nd ed. (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2005)**

The most contested verse in the gender debate is 1Timothy 2:12. This book is a technical study on the interpretation and implications of this seminal text. The results of this study have been widely received among scholars, and I highly recommend it. There are parts of this book that are probably too technical for the popular reader, but there are many pastors and others with theological training that would benefit from this book.

**Margaret Köstenberger, *Jesus and the Feminists: Who Do They Say That He Is?* (Wheaton: Crossway, 2008)**

This resource provides a detailed survey and critique of various feminist interpretations of Jesus and offers a biblical view of men and women in the church and home.

**Mary Kassian, *The Feminist Mistake: The Radical Impact of Feminism on Church and Culture* (Wheaton: Crossway, 2005)**

Mary Kassian provides a thought-provoking inquiry into the history of feminism and an examination of the effects of feminism. This is a reliable, biblical critique of feminism from a complementarian perspective.

**Wayne Grudem, *Evangelical Feminism & Biblical Truth* (Eugene: Multnomah, 2004)**

This book is just as comprehensive as Piper and Grudem's *Recovering Biblical Manhood and Womanhood*, but it is perhaps a bit more up to date. It is particularly helpful because the chapters are written as a response to specific egalitarian objections to the complementarian position.

**Wayne Grudem, *Evangelical Feminism: A New Path to Liberalism* (Wheaton: Crossway, 2006)**

In this book, Wayne Grudem argues that evangelical feminism is on a trajectory toward theological liberalism. This book shows how evangelical feminism can erode evangelical faith.

**Bruce Ware, *Father, Son, & Holy Spirit* (Wheaton: Crossway, 2005)**

In 1 Corinthians 11:3, the apostle Paul draws an analogy between the husband/wife relationship and the relationships among the members of the Trinity. This has caused a great deal of discussion about the nature of the Trinity and how the Son submits to the Father. Egalitarians have one view, and complementarians have another. In this book, Bruce Ware sets forth the view that complementarians hold.

**John Piper, *This Momentary Marriage: A Parable of Permanence* (Wheaton: Crossway, 2009)**

This book sets forth a biblical theology of marriage and related issues. It has a more practical, pastoral focus.

**Christians for Biblical Equality (CBE)**  
**Bibliography Compiled by Mimi Haddad**  
**CBE President**

**CBE Website:** <http://www.cbeinternational.org/>

**Biblical, Theological & Philosophical:**

1. Philip B. Payne, *Man and Woman, One in Christ: An Exegetical and Theological Study of Paul's Letters* (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2009).
2. Ronald W. Pierce and Rebecca Merrill Groothuis, ed., *Discovering Biblical Equality: Complementarity Without Hierarchy*, 2nd ed. (Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2005).
3. John Stackhouse, *Finally Feminist: A Pragmatic Christian Understanding of Gender* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2005).
4. Gilbert Bilezikian, *Beyond Sex Roles: What the Bible Says about a Woman's Place in Church and Family*, 3<sup>rd</sup> ed. (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 2006).
5. Manfred T. Brauch, *Abusing Scripture: The Consequences of Misreading the Bible* (Downers Grove: IVP Academic, 2009).
6. Aida Besancon Spencer, *Beyond the Curse: Women Called to Ministry* (Grand Rapids: Baker Academic, 1989).
7. J. Lee Grady, *10 Lies the Church Tells Women: How the Bible Has Been Misused to Keep Women in Spiritual Bondage*, rev. ed. (Lake Mary, FL: Charisma, 2006).
8. Rebecca Merrill Groothuis, *Good News for Women: A Biblical Picture of Gender Equality* (Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1996).

**Historical:**

1. Janette Hassey, *No Time for Silence: Evangelical Women in Public Ministry Around the Turn of the Century* (Minneapolis: CBE, 1986). A must read for anyone affiliated with EFCA.

**Missiological:**

1. Loren Cunningham and David Joel Hamilton with Janice Rogers *Why Not Women: A Fresh Look at Scripture on Women in Missions, Ministry, and Leadership* (England: YWAM, 2000).

**Sociological:**

1. Alan F. Johnson, ed., *How I changed my Mind about Women in Leadership: Compelling Stories from Prominent Evangelicals*, (Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2010).

**Concise summaries with study questions:**

1. Janet George, *Still Side by Side* (Minneapolis: CBE, 2011).
2. Robert Kruschwitz, ed., *Women and the Church: A Series on Faith and Ethics* (Baylor).
3. A. Berkeley & Alvera Mickelsen, *Studies on Biblical Equality: 12 Lesson Outlines for Personal or Group Study* (Minneapolis: CBE, 2007).
4. Richard and Catherine Clark Kroeger, *Women Elders: Called by God?* (Justice for Women Committee, Women's Ministry Unit, Presbyterian Church, 1992).
5. Visit the Free Articles page at Christians for Biblical Equality's website: <http://www.cbeinternational.org/?q=content/free-articles>