



B REVEALING WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS

God's view of women



Why use this Bible study?

This Bible study helps us explore how God views women and how we should view women.



What does the Lord require of you?

Read Genesis 1:27. What does this passage tell us about the way God views women?

In Jesus' time, women were of low status, as they still are in many countries today.

Read John 4:4-26, Mark 5:25-34 and John 8:2-11.

Think about what this says about women, and whether, in our culture, we have got this right.



Read Galatians 3:26-29. This passage points out that women and men are given equal inheritance rights to God's kingdom. Do we, in our churches give equal rights to women and men?



Key points

God clearly tells us in the Bible that women and men are equal and yet around the world women have fewer rights to education, access to food, money and well paid employment. Jesus went against his culture and included women amongst his most trusted friends. He made very powerful counter-cultural statements in the way he treated women.



Questions for discussion

- How do people in our culture view women?
- In what ways are women de-valued?
- Do women have the same rights and opportunities as men? Can they buy land, access money, education, health services and employment?
- What implications does this have for us as we carry out God's work?

Awareness-raising
Children & youth
Climate & environment
Conflict & peace-building
Corruption & governance
Disaster risk management
Discrimination & inclusion
Food & livelihoods
Gender & sexual violence
Health & HIV
Influencing decision-makers
Migration & trafficking
Water, sanitation & hygiene



Reflection

Think about the practical ways that you can help women to be equal in your church and in your work place, and in your community. What action can you take in the next few weeks?



Notes

This Bible study is adapted from one first published in Tearfund (2005) ROOTS 8 – *HIV and AIDS: taking action*

Related tools

- A1 – Revealing violence against women and girls: information for facilitators [A1: Gender & sexual violence-1]
- A1 – Revealing female genital mutilation: information for facilitators [A1: Gender & sexual violence-2]
- A1 – Revealing inequality between men and women: information for facilitators [A1: Gender & sexual violence-3]
- A2 – Understanding how men and women use their time [A2: Gender & sexual violence-1]
- A2 – Exploring men and women's control over resources [A2: Gender & sexual violence-2]
- A2 – Why address violence against women and girls [A2: Gender & sexual violence-3]
- A2 – What are the root causes of violence against women and girls? [A2: Gender & sexual violence-4]
- A2 – Exploring gender roles and power [A2: Gender & sexual violence-5]
- A2 – Men and women: listening to one another [A2: Gender & sexual violence-6]
- A2 – Self-discovery tool (Violence against women and girls) [A2: Gender & sexual violence-7]
- B – Gender and restoring relationships (Bible study) [B: Gender & sexual violence-1]
- B – God's view of men (Bible study) [B: Gender & sexual violence-4]
- B – Men, women and God [B: Gender & sexual violence-5]
- B – Protecting those vulnerable to sexual violence (Bible study) [B: Sexual violence-1]
- B – Sexual violence in the Bible: the story of Tamar (Bible study) [B: Sexual violence-2]

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