



CFTU

Christian Feminism To You

Speakers Bureau

“Women be silent”? Untangling Paul’s Words on Women

There’s good news for women in the Gospels and Paul’s letters, though many of us may have grown up hearing things like “Women should be in submission to their husbands.”

In this lecture, Anne begins with the good news of women prophets in the Torah and women participating in the earliest communities following Jesus. Then she reviews Bible evidence for women taking active roles among early Christians and working with Paul the Apostle. Paul’s own words in Romans, I Corinthians, Galatians, and other letters show the prominent roles of women. Finally, she looks at various ways of understanding key “problem passages” such as I Corinthians 14:33-36, Ephesians 5, 1 Timothy and 2 Timothy, and 1 Peter 3. We all need to reconsider the misinformation about Paul and women that has been circulating for centuries.

Includes a PowerPoint presentation.

Presentation can be adjusted from 30 to 60 minutes plus 10 or 20 minutes for Q & A. This presentation can also be combined with other lectures over the course of a weekend, with group time between sessions to examine Bible passages.

Anne Linstatter is a writer and scholar who lives in Santa Monica, California. She has taught English literature and Women and Religion at California State University, Northridge, and other colleges. She earned a doctorate in English literature with specialization in medieval women. After identifying as a feminist in 1968 and struggling to reconcile feminism with her born-again commitment to the Bible, she found *All We’re Meant to Be* by Letha Dawson Scanzoni and Nancy Hardesty in 1974 and met them later that year, becoming a founding member of Evangelical and Ecumenical Women’s Caucus, now known as Christian Feminism Today. Since then, she has remained active in CFT and has served several times on their Executive Council. Linstatter collected and edited personal stories for a pro-choice book, *Abortion—My Choice, God’s Grace: Christian Women Tell Their Stories* (New Paradigm, 1994). She’s the mother of three daughters and blogs at <http://marthaymaria.blogspot.com/>. Read more at <http://annelinstatter.com/>.



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