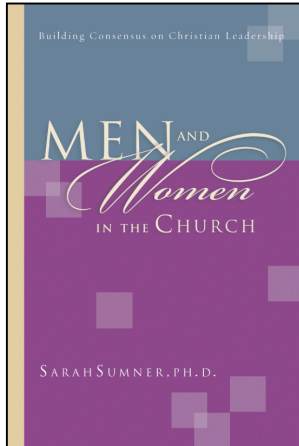


MEN AND WOMEN IN THE CHURCH

If your mind tells you that women cannot be in church leadership,
but your heart tells you that they can ...
here's an author who offers a way to reconcile the two.



Evangelicals stand divided in their view of women in the church. On one side stand complementarians, arguing the full worth of women but assigning them to differing roles. On the other side stand egalitarians, arguing that the full worth of women demands their equal treatment and access to leadership roles. Is there a way to mend the breach and build consensus? Avoiding the pitfalls of radical feminism and reactionary conservatism, Sarah Sumner traces a new path through the issues—biblical, theological, psychological and practical— to establish and affirm common ground. Arguing that men and women are both equal and distinct, Sumner encourages us to find ways to honor and benefit from the leadership gifts of both.

“I have written this book because I have hope that men and women in the church can build new bridges of trust (I Corinthians 13:8),” Sumner says. “I think it’s realistic to believe that we can change. We *can* repent and build more integrity within ourselves as well as in our local church communities. We can also seek to heal our relationships. But in order to do this, we have to come to grips with our current condition and engage in some unsettling conversations.”

Talking Points:

- Describe, as you see it, the current issue in the church regarding women in church leadership.
- Why do you say that the confusion in the church ultimately stems from a more fundamental question of relationships rather than what women do or do not do in the church?
- Why is female leadership in the church so quickly associated with feminism?
- What is your interpretation of the reference to the headship of the husband in Ephesians 5?
- How can men and women in the church begin to build consensus on this issue?

To schedule an interview contact Krista Carnet, InterVarsity Press,
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