

Questions for Personal Reflection or Group Discussion

Supplemental Notes

- **The 2nd speaker in the video is Dr. Bilezikian. He explains the meaning of the word “head” in 1 Corinthians 11:3 (“the head of every man is Christ, and the head of the woman is man, and the head of Christ is God”). Here are his points:**
 - If translated “boss, leader”
 - The boss of every man is Christ (yes).
 - The boss of the woman is man (maybe yes, maybe no).
 - The boss of Christ is God (no – Jesus is not eternally subordinate to the Father).
 - If translated “source of life” (which is in chronological order):
 - The source of life of every man is Christ (yes, in creation).
 - The source of life of the woman is man (yes, in creation, woman was made from the side of man).
 - The source of life of Christ is God (yes, Jesus was sent from God the Father in the incarnation).

Opening Thoughts, Prior to the Video

1. What are some modern connotations of the word “head” in English when referring to relationships?



Closing Thoughts, After the Video

1. Look at the Supplemental Notes where it breaks down possible implications of the word “head” in 1 Corinthians. Do you agree with Dr. Payne and Dr. Bilezikian’s explanation that the word “head” in Greek does not have the connotation of leader or boss? If not, how should it be understood?
2. Read 1 Corinthians 11:3-5. Dr. Johnson reminds us that the context of 1 Corinthians 11:3 is the proper hair, or covering of the head, when men and women were praying and prophesying in church. Do you think Paul, by writing the words “man is the head of woman” in this context is establishing hierarchy in the church?
3. Read Ephesians 1:22-23, 4:15-16, and Colossians 2:19.
According to these verses, what are some functions of Jesus as head of the church?
4. Ephesians 5 says “the husband is the head of the wife as Christ is the head of the church.” If head means source of life and nourishment, as Dr. Payne describes, how can that apply to husbands today?
5. It has been said “Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely.”
Do you see any down-side of giving husbands total, God-given, authority over their wives?



Additional References

Still Side by Side pages 24-28

https://www.cbeinternational.org/sites/default/files/SSBS-a4-ENGLISH-complete_web.pdf

Short Answers to Challenging Texts: 1 Corinthians 11:2-16 / Allison Young

<https://www.cbeinternational.org/resources/article/other/short-answers-challenging-texts-1-corinthians-11-16>

I Believe in Male Headship / Gilbert Bilezikian

<https://www.cbeinternational.org/resources/article/other/i-believe-male-headship>

The Doctrine of the Trinity and Subordination / Kevin Giles

<https://www.cbeinternational.org/resources/article/priscilla-papers/doctrine-trinity-and-subordination>

Clergy Responses to Domestic Violence / Steven Tracy

<https://www.cbeinternational.org/resources/article/priscilla-papers/clergy-responses-domestic-violence>