

Bible Study Series: "Not So With You" (lesson 1)

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Jesus called them together and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ²⁶**Not so with you.** Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ²⁷and whoever wants to be first must be your slave— ²⁸just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Matthew 20:26-28

Jesus had taught, modeled, retaught, illustrated "the Kingdom" and yet those closest didn't get it!
Good News: Once these guys experienced the resurrected Christ they were willing to die for Him!
Bad News: The Church of America has 2000 years of history, teaching and we often still don't get it!

Jesus Disciples were often hearing Jesus through the filter of their contemporary culture...So are we!

In the Ancient World:

- In Greco-Roman World the ratio of men to women was 14:10
- Rome: Law of Romulus: Father required to raise all healthy males but only 1 female, the others were disposable.
- 3rd Century Greek Poet Posidippas: "Everyone raise a son even if they are poor but exposes a daughter even if he is rich."
- City of Delphi: 6 of 600 known families raised more than one daughter, the rest abandoned them to die

Today: Asia has 163 million fewer females than male. Rich families can't find brides for their sons and so poor families sell their daughters often at or under the age of 12.

By Contrast, the Church of the 1st Century modeled the teaching/example of Jesus and the world was shaken by it all!

For Christ, Women Have Value Equal to That of Men!

Women were addressed _____ by Jesus

- "**Many of the Samaritans from that town believed in him because of the woman's testimony,** "He told me everything I ever did." ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. ⁴¹And because of his words many more became believers." John 4:39-40
- The Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Doesn't each of you on the Sabbath untie your ox or donkey from the stall and lead it out to give it water? ¹⁶**Then should not this woman, a daughter of Abraham,** whom Satan has kept bound for eighteen long years, be set free on the Sabbath day from what bound her?" ¹⁷When he said this, all his opponents were humiliated, but the people were delighted with all the wonderful things he was doing. Luke 13:15-7

Women were held personally responsible for their _____, just like men.

But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger. ⁷When they kept on questioning him, he straightened up and said to them, "Let any one of you who is without sin be the first to throw a stone at her." ⁸Again he stooped down and wrote on the ground.

⁹At this, those who heard began to go away one at a time, the older ones first, until only Jesus was left, with the woman still standing there. ¹⁰Jesus straightened up and asked her, "**Woman, where are they? Has no one condemned you?**"

¹¹"**No one, sir,**" she said. "**Then neither do I condemn you,**" Jesus declared. "**Go now and leave your life of sin.**"

John 8:6-11

Women were enlisted and encouraged to _____ in the Kingdom.

"After this, Jesus traveled about from one town and village to another, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom of God. The Twelve were with him, ²and also **some women** who had been cured of evil spirits and diseases: **Mary (called Magdalene)** from whom seven demons had come out; ³**Joanna the wife of Chuza,** the manager of Herod's household; **Susanna;** and **many others.** These **women were helping to support them out of their own means.**" Luke 8:1-3

Bottomline: Do we have "Biblical Worldview about Women"?

All Scriptures are from the New International Version Bible. You may make comments or ask questions about this Study by emailing Bro. Tony: brotony@itawambachristianchurch.org