

## **Life Changes**

### **I Corinthians 11:2-34**

#### **Let's keep in mind:**

1. Our one side of the story.
2. Paul was always seeking to help people from extremely different cultures, backgrounds and moral practices learn how to live out the Christian life in the settings where they were.
3. Do not build an entire theology on one or two brief statements. Example: what Paul says about angels in verse 10 or Ephesians 3:9, 10.
4. Some things do not change, particularly God Himself and His moral mandates. Cultures, however, are always changing. The history of faith shows that responses to the culture in which we live must often change as well, if we are to be relevant witnesses who honor God.
5. Remember: context, context, context. Work to keep a balance with the whole picture of what Scripture tells about God, His ways, His desires for us.
6. Never let what we are not sure of keep us from acting on what we clearly understand.

#### **On heads, hair and authority (verses 2-16).**

The culture

Concern for their witness in that culture.

A heart issue.

God's created order.

**The wider context of Scripture:** As believers, whether women or men, we have worth in God's eyes; access to salvation; can make eternal contributions to the kingdom; are recipients of God's incredible, unconditional, transforming love; live as a temple of the Holy Spirit. We are all members of the body of Christ. This is not about inferiority or superiority. Paul is briefly discussing what lies behind some biblical roles and distinctives and how that guides us in living here.

## **Our response to words about God's order and authority.**

### **The balance of Scripture.**

Paul in Galatians 3:28.

We still live in a Fallen world (Genesis 3).

How Jesus related to women. (Example: Luke 8.).

Paul's respect and service with them.

### **A tendency we can have.**

In our freedom, we must watch our heart attitudes.

What do "squeezes" on *your* "tube of toothpaste" reveal?

### **The Lord's Supper (verses 17-34).**

The bread, His body. "Remember...."

The cup, His blood. "Remember...."

Remember Him, and proclaim His death:

- ...That bought us out of sin's slave market, out of spiritual death and darkness, and transferred us to God's kingdom of life and light.
- ...That completed the payment for sins committed.
- ...That gives us forgiveness and right standing with God.
- ...That enables us to live here as new creations in Christ, and with God forever.
- ...The firm, incredible witness to God's love, generosity and commitment to us.

**Do this in a worthy manner.**