



Women in the Assembly of Christ

In any religious institution, as far as I am concerned they can play any role games they like. As to the body of Christ, she is Christ's. Christ is her Head and gives gifts as He chooses to whom He chooses. The working out of these gifts given by Christ is evidence of the calling. The members of the body of Christ do not get to select individuals for those assignments which are exclusively Christ's to give. Acts 20:28 (NKJV)

[28] "Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. [29] "For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. [30] "Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. The Holy Spirit makes those He chooses and reveals as overseers (elders) by them having the fruit of such a calling. Verse 30 makes it clear that at that time in that place the elders/overseers were men. This does not however hinder God in anyway from appointing whoever He chooses for whatever role He chooses.

Deacons/servants on the other hand were selected by the assembly as in Acts 6 Acts 6:3 (NKJV)

[3] "Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; [4] "but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word." [5] And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, [6] whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them.

Again men only as was fitting with the Patriarchal culture at that time and place.)

However this was not universal as demonstrated in Romans 16

[16:1] I commend to you Phoebe our sister, who is a servant (female deacon) of the church in Cenchrea, [2] that you may receive her in the Lord in a manner worthy of the saints, and assist her in whatever business she has need of you; for indeed she has been a helper of many and of myself also. [3] Greet Priscilla and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, [4] who risked their own necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks, but also all the churches of the Gentiles.

I pray we may be led by the Spirit and not the letter.