



## *Giftedness of Women and Men*

### *Theology*

At Sugar Grove Church of Christ, we recognize that God created both men and women in His image, that He offers the same Holy Spirit to both women and men at salvation, and that men and women are both equal and yet, distinct in their perfect design.<sup>1</sup> We believe this perfect design of equality was distorted by sin, but is restored through the cross and that women and men now find their identity in Christ alone.<sup>2</sup> Sugar Grove Church of Christ believes it takes both men and women to reveal to the world the fullness of the person of Jesus, as each submit to one another and to Christ.<sup>3</sup> We believe that the New Testament implies that the distinct leadership role of elder is reserved for men.<sup>4</sup> The elders of Sugar Grove Church of Christ affirm that in all other roles and positions of leadership, women and men are scripturally qualified, spiritually blessed, and directly called to use their spiritual gifts to build the kingdom of God.<sup>5</sup>

1. Genesis 1:26-27; Genesis 2:18; Acts 2:14-21, 38-39
2. Genesis 3:15-19; Galatians 3:28; Galatians 2:11-18, Colossians 3:11; 2 Corinthians 5:14-19
3. Ephesians 5:15 - 6:9; 1 Peter 3:1-7; Ephesians 4:1-16; Acts 2:17-18
4. 1 Timothy 3:1-7
5. Acts 2:17-18; Romans 12:3-8; 1 Corinthians 11:2-16; 1 Corinthians 12:4-13, 27; Ephesians 4:7-16; Philippians 4:2-3, 10-15; Romans 16:1-16; 1 Corinthians 16:19; 1 Timothy 3:11

### *Philosophy*

Sugar Grove Church of Christ will encourage, equip, and enable men and women to use all their God-given gifts in ministry. The kingdom of God is best advanced when all people are invited, both women and men, to use their complete spiritual gifting.

### *Practice*

At Sugar Grove Church of Christ, we are pleased to invite men and women to use all their God-given gifts in ministry to our body. In all gatherings and in all settings, women and men are invited to use their spiritual gifting for the glory of God and the advancement of His kingdom.