

# PCA Women's Ministry Training Bibliography

## Foundations

*None Greater*, Matthew Barrett.

If God is the most perfect, supreme being, infinite and incomprehensible, then certain perfect-making attributes must be true of him. Perfections like aseity, simplicity, immutability, impassibility, and eternity shield God from being crippled by creaturely limitations. At the same time, this all-powerful, all-knowing, and all-wise God accommodates himself, exhibiting perfect holiness, mercy, and love as he makes known who he is and how he will save us. The attributes of God show us exactly why God is worthy of worship: there is none like him.

*Strange New World*, Carl Trueman.

How did the world arrive at its current, disorienting state of identity politics, and how should the church respond? Historian Carl R. Trueman shows how influences ranging from traditional institutions to technology and pornography moved modern culture toward an era of “expressive individualism.” Investigating philosophies from the Romantics, Nietzsche, Marx, Wilde, Freud, and the New Left, he outlines the history of Western thought to the distinctly sexual direction of present-day identity politics and explains the modern implications of these ideas on religion, free speech, and personal identity.

*The Rise and Triumph of the Modern Self: Cultural Amnesia, Expressive Individualism, and the Road to Sexual Revolution*, Carl R. Trueman. (Advanced Reading)

Modern culture is obsessed with identity. Since the landmark *Obergefell v. Hodges* Supreme Court decision in 2015, sexual identity has dominated both public discourse and cultural trends—yet no historical phenomenon is its own cause. Carl Trueman analyzes the development of the sexual revolution as a symptom—rather than the cause—of the human search for identity.

## Covenant

*Big Picture of Bible-Timeline*, Susan Tyner.

This is a great tool for teaching about the different covenants in the Bible. It comes folded for easy storage. (Available exclusively at the PCA Bookstore.)

*Christ of the Covenants*, O. Palmer Robertson. (Advanced Reading)

Presents the richness of a covenantal approach to understanding the Bible. Treats the OT covenants from successive standpoint.

*Covenants Made Simple*, Jonty Rhodes.

What do the various covenants given throughout the Bible mean to us? Beginning with Adam in the garden of Eden, and ending with Jesus, our risen Covenant King, Rhodes illuminates the good news of a promise-making, promise-keeping God.

*Far as the Curse is Found*, Michael D. Williams.

In this study of the meaning and scope of the covenant and highlights the goodness of the physical realm and God's redemptive intentions for his creation.

*The Covenantal Life: Appreciating the Beauty of Theology and Community*, Sarah Ivill.

We live in an age where we have traded a God-centered theology for a man-centered one and traded in interdependence in the community of grace for individualism and isolationism. A key solution to this problem is a return to a robust knowledge of Covenant theology, which in turn should lead us to a rich engagement within the body of Christ.

## Church

*The Church: One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic*, Richard-D-Phillips, Mark E. Dever, Philip Graham Ryken.

Three pastor-scholars explore the meaning for evangelicals today of the Nicene Creed's affirmation of the church as one holy, catholic, and apostolic.

*Communion of Saints*, edited Philip Ryken.

This biblical and practical guide, complete with leader's guide and spiritual gifts questionnaire, guides those united in Christ toward life in the Christian community.

*The Church*, Edmund P. Clowney.

A concise introductory textbook of theology. Introduces perennial questions and tested solutions and explores contemporary issues of the Reformed faith related to the church.

*The Enduring Community*, Brian Habig and Les Newsome.

This title addresses the subject of the Bible's teaching about the Church, and the New Testament's call to live as a part of the enduring community.

*Heirs of the Covenant*, Susan Hunt.

This covenantal approach to Christian education equips parents, teachers, and pastors to pass on a legacy of faith to the next generation. A strategic work to help Christians reach the rising generation for Christ.

## Womanhood

*Beyond the Roles*, various authors, edited by Melanie Cogdill.

Theology matters and our ministry to women must be grounded in a biblical understanding of what God's Word says about the issues we face. *Beyond the Roles* brings together an ethnically & generationally diverse group of authors to respond to various contemporary issues who remind us of the importance of ministry to women that is rooted in the gospel. These essays give you the tools to contextualize your ministries while remaining anchored to God's Word. Topics addressed include:

- How do we biblically encourage and minister to those who identify as transgender?
- What are the implications of Imago Dei for women in ministry?
- Discipleship for Working Women

- Ministering to women who are caregivers
- Reaching Gen Z

*By Design: God's Distinctive Calling for Women*, Susan Hunt.

Once spiritual mothering relationships have been formed, they become a powerful launching pad for women's ministry. Discover how the unique design of women has specially equipped them to be channels of compassion to the church, the community, and the world. Separate leader's guide available.

*The Legacy of Biblical Womanhood*, Susan Hunt and Barbara Thompson.

Whose responsibility is it to disciple women in the biblical image of womanhood? Hunt and Thompson believe this important job belongs to the church—and offer practical advice on starting a “spiritual mothering” ministry in your congregation. Separate leader's guide available.

*The True Woman*, Susan Hunt.

This book contrasts the true woman with the new woman of culture and examines the standard and virtues of the true woman according to Scripture.

*The Toxic War on Masculinity: How Christianity Reconciles the Sexes*, Nancy Pearcey.

A former agnostic, Pearcey was hailed in *The Economist* as “America's pre-eminent evangelical Protestant female intellectual.” Pearcey takes readers on a fascinating journey through American history to discover how the secular script for masculinity turned toxic—and what action we can take to fix it. Much of her research includes the influence of Christian women in American life.

## **Kingdom Discipleship**

*The Hole in our Holiness*, Kevin DeYoung.

What does it mean to be holy? This is a book about God's power to help us grow in personal holiness and to enjoy the process of transformation.

*Embodied Hope*, Kelly M Kopic.

Too often the Christian attitude towards suffering is characterized by a detached academic appeal to God's sovereignty, as if suffering were a game or a math problem. Or maybe we expect that since God is good, everything will work out all right somehow. But what about honest lament? This book encourages believers to learn about the riches of a theology of suffering.

## **Women's Ministry**

*Aging with Grace: Flourishing in an Anti-Aging Culture*. Sharon Betters, Susan Hunt

Whatever season of life you're in, God has equipped you to flourish—to live in the transforming power and beauty of His grace. As we age, we can easily lose sight of this message as cultural ideals glorifying youth take center stage. Sharon and Susan offer present-day and biblical examples of women who rediscovered gospel-rooted joy later in life. *Aging with Grace* gives you a biblical perspective that helps you encounter afresh the gospel that “is big enough...to make every season of life significant and glorious.”

*Leadership for Women in the Church*, Susan Hunt and Peggy Hutchison.

Explore what having a women's ministry can mean in women's lives, discover how to construct the ministry on a solid theological footing, and learn how to train a leadership team. Leader's guide is available.

*Spiritual Mothering*, Susan Hunt.

In Titus 2, the Apostle Paul outlines a ministry model in which older women nurture younger women in character, in faith, and in doctrine. With this study, you can put the principles of "spiritual mothering" to work, helping your women create a close-knit community built on covenant relationships. Separate leader's guide available.

*Titus 2 Tools*, Susan Hunt.

This book contains the answers to the most common questions in Women's Ministry. This workbook will help women to be wise stewards of the gospel imperative found in Titus 2: to teach what accords with sound doctrine. This book equips you to teach Titus 2 principles so that lives, homes, workplaces, marriages, friendships, and churches will be strengthened and transformed.

*Transformed: Life-taker to Life-giver*, Susan Hunt, Karen Hodge.

Deep in our hearts, we know our influence within each situation and relationship. Sometimes we are life-givers and sometimes life-takers. This 10-week personal or group Bible study takes us on a transformational journey. Key biblical passages, gospel-centered devotions, Scripture based prayers, and heart-penetrating questions celebrate the power of the gospel to transform God's daughters into women who give life to their relationships.

*Life-giving Leadership*, Susan Hunt, Karen Hodge.

Jesus modeled a different kind of leadership. His leadership brought life to His followers, and our leadership should too. But how can our leadership be life-giving when it can so easily be life-taking? Life-giving leadership is grounded in God's Word, filled with the purpose of glorifying God, relationally driven and decidedly different than anything the world teaches us about leadership.

*Women's Ministry in the Local Church*, Ligon Duncan and Susan Hunt.

The authors walk women through Scripture to help them better understand what it means to have an effective, biblical women's ministry in the church and provide many proven tools to help start a women's ministry in your church. Leader's guide in the Women's Ministry: Training and Resources Guide below.

## **Bible Study Suggestions**

There is an up-to-date list of recommended resources at:

## **PCA**

*Book of Church Order*, <http://www.pcaac.org/resources/bco/>

*Inquirers Guide to the PCA*, edited Dennis Bennett.

This Inquirer's Guide is designed to introduce you to the PCA—its origins, its distinctives and its structure.

*PCA Bookstore*, <http://www.pcabookstore.com>, or 800–283–1357.

Most of the resources listed in this bibliography are available online or by phone through this bookstore in Atlanta, GA. Bulk discounts are available.

*Presbyterian Church in America Website*, <http://www.pcanet.org>.

This site contains information for all the agencies and committees of the denomination. The women's ministry section is in the CDM (Committee on Discipleship Ministries) portion.

## **Reformed Faith**

*Westminster Confession of Faith and Catechisms with Scripture Proofs*.

A 450-page paperback of all three works, published by CDM as the official document of the denomination.

*Confessing the Faith*, Chad Van Dixhoorn.

This accessible, biblical, and thoughtful work digests years of study and teaching into bite-sized sections. Van Dixhoorn's work is historical and practical in its focus. It deliberately presents readers with more than another survey of Reformed theology; it offers a guide to a particular text, considers its original proof-texts, and seeks to deepen our understanding of each paragraph of the Confession.

*Confessing the Faith Study Guide*, Emily Van Dixhoorn.

This is a resource that aims to make group study easy. The questions stick closely to the text of Chad Van Dixhoorn's *Confessing the Faith* and follow the chapter subheadings that you will find there. Some questions cover essential doctrines; others explore scriptural passages; still others promote personal application. Each chapter ends with a consideration for prayer.

*What is a Reformed Church?* Stephen Smallman.

An introduction to the Reformed view of Scripture, divine sovereignty, the covenant of grace, the law of God, the church, and the Kingdom of God.