

Street Evangelist for Women's Equality

Speaking up for women wherever I am



January 1, 2016

Todd Adkins, Director of Leadership
LifeWay Christian Resources
One LifeWay Plaza
Nashville, TN 37234-0162

Regarding your tweet **“Our mission is to empower a generation to change the world for Christ.”**

Todd, you can do it and I applaud your efforts. But it will take courage and vision. In 1987 a group of young pastors got together and wrote the Danvers Statement which led to the Baptist Faith and Message 2000. These men are old now and it is up to you young ministers and leaders to take over.

Their vision was of the times and culture that was already passing even as they sat down in Danvers, Massachusetts. It is up to you and your generation now to get it right. It is up to you to empower this generation to change the world for Christ.

To empower a generation means that both men and women will be empowered, equally, as God Himself has called. It will be a vision like no other, unleashing the magnificence of God on his male and female children. We read of this power in Acts 3, 4:1-18, paraphrased.

“By what power are you doing these things?” they asked Peter and John the next day.

Peter looked them in the eye and said that it was by the power of Jesus Christ, whom they had killed, but who had been resurrected, and now they were able to do this good deed in his name. If these unschooled and untrained men were able to do this, then what else could they do? After all, these men had been with Jesus. So they talked, and they talked some more, and came up with the only thing they could think of: “in order that it may not be spread any further among the people, let us warn them to speak no more to any man in this name.”

Peter and John said, **“Whether it is right in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you be the judge.”**

Like Peter and John, we cannot stop speaking what we have seen and heard. We are empowered by the same Source. We, too, have walked with Jesus. Peter and John could not quit telling about Jesus. They were told to stop, but they could not, because they were just getting started. We who believe in equality, cannot quit now as the battle is not yet won for women's equality. We, too, have been with Jesus. Saved by the blood of the lamb and a witness to what he has done through his Word, and to how he has spoken to us.

Christian leaders get it wrong when they seek to hurt in Jesus' name: Crusades, witch hunts, Spanish Inquisition, slavery, terrorism, **and male headship which damages more people than all the others.**

This generation consists of both men and women. The choice is yours: Will you be part of the previous generation of hurt or will you lead into the future?

Shirley Taylor (*Women Equal – No Buts: Powered by the same Source*)